



Provision of NFIs for a deported Single female in Herat province.

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Highlights

- 789** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan
- 16,375** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran
- 5,291** total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018
- 133,946** total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018
- 92%** of returnees from Pakistan (728 individuals) assisted
- 5%** of returnees from Iran (874 individuals) assisted
- 98** Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC) from Iran among those assisted, 1 from Pakistan
- 57** Medical Cases (MC) from Iran among those assisted, 0 from Pakistan

Return from Pakistan

A total of **789** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 11–17 March 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 729 were spontaneous returnees and 60 were deported. This number marks a **27% increase** compared to the previous week (623). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 5,291. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **92%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (728 individuals), including 551 individuals in poor families, 161 individuals in single parent families, 15 Special Case and 1 UMC. The assistance provided includes meals, accommodation, basic medical screening, Non-Food Items (NFIs), onward transportation cash grants and referral services, as well as support from partners.

Extension of PoR cards and Issuance of ACC Cards

The Government of Pakistan has extended the validity of Proof of Registration cards to 1.4m Afghan refugees until 30 June 2018 pending further review after the upcoming Pakistani Federal election and appointment of a new Cabinet. In addition, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) has begun the issuance of Afghan Citizen Cards for over 878,000 undocumented Afghans who applied to register since 16 August 2017 at 21 registration points across Pakistan. The registration process for ACCs was completed on 28 February. ACC registration centers remain open to continue card distribution. ACCs have a validity of 30 June 2018 and holders are required to return to Afghanistan to regularize by registering for civil documentation including a passport and a Pakistani visa before returning to Pakistan. The approximately 200,000 Afghans who remain undocumented may face deportation. As of 12 March, 2018, 175,321 individuals have received their Afghan Citizen Card.

Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since 01 January 2018, over 139,237 undocumented Afghans have returned due to diverse push factors, including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan and Iran. Most 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. As the rate of return is influenced by a number of political, security and other related factors both in Afghanistan and neighboring countries, another surge in returns could occur at any time. The governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan together with UN counterparts have now extended Proof of Registration cards for 1.4m Afghan refugees in Pakistan to 30 June 2018 and have begun the issuance of Afghan Citizenship Cards on 16 February for more than 850,000 undocumented Afghans. IOM is working to scale up its support to returnees in coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and other humanitarian partners in line with the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

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Return from Iran

A total of **16,375** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 11—17 Mar 2018, **12 % More** than in the previous week. Of the total deported undocumented Afghans, 2,407 individuals were deported through Islam Qala (Herat) and 5,682 were deported through Milak (Nimroz). Of those who spontaneously returned, 6,240 returned through Islam Qala (Herat) and 2,046 through Milak (Nimroz). Out of the total deportees, 804 individuals (10%) were deported with family members whereas 7,285 (90%) were deported as individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 133,946. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **874 (5%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 551 individuals in Deported Families (DF), 98 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 52 Special Cases (SC), 57 Medical Cases (MC), 38 poor families (PF), 12 Unaccompanied Elderly (UAE), 42 Single Parents (SP), 7 Physical Disabled (PD), 6 Single Females (SF), 9 Drug Addicted (DA) and 2 CI.

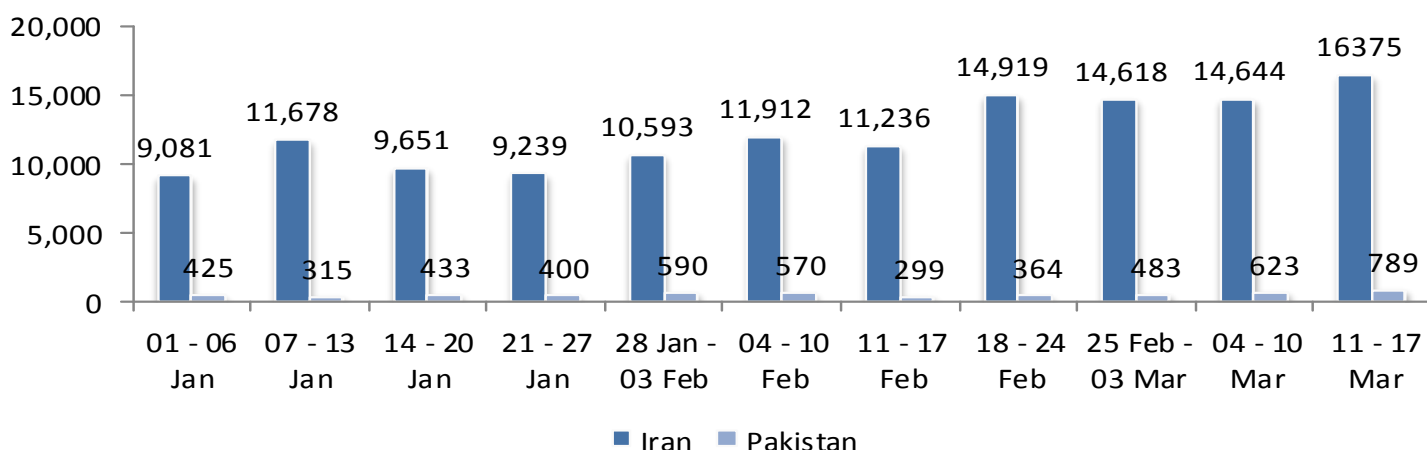
Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz			
January 2018	774	889	17,688	5,720	170	48	9,323	14,535	1,881	47,266	49,147
February 2018	633	768	13,576	4,758	69	237	8,747	25,676	1,707	52,757	54,464
01 - 03 Mar 2018	151	119	27	488	1	20	258	2,131	291	2,904	3,195
04 - 10 Mar 2018	269	326	4,294	1,536	12	16	2,803	6,011	623	14,644	15,267
11 - 17 Mar 2018	211	518	6,240	2,046	8	52	2,407	5,682	789	16,375	17,164
Total	2,038	2,620	41,825	14,548	260	373	23,538	54,035	5,291	133,946	139,237

IOM Assisted Undocumented Afghans 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz			
January 2018	774	854	56	24	21	16	389	1,542	1,665	2,011	3,676
February 2018	633	750	81	59	30	11	463	1,558	1,424	2,161	3,585
01 - 03 Mar 2018	151	99	0	11	0	0	69	110	250	190	440
04 - 10 Feb 2018	269	280	34	21	11	0	298	302	560	655	1,215
11 - 17 Mar 2018	211	501	28	44	0	16	456	346	728	874	1,602
Total	2,038	2,484	199	159	62	43	1,675	3,858	4,627	5,891	10,518

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 10,518 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2018, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

Migration for the benefit of all.

