



Undocumented returnee families arrive at Islam Qala border  
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## Highlights

**577,224** total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

**552,071** total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018

**25,153** total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

**14,361** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

**505** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

**3%** of returnees from Iran (442 individuals) assisted

**90%** of returnees from Pakistan (452 individuals) assisted

### Return from Iran

A total of **14,361** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 16—22 September 2018, **8% less** than in the previous week. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 552,071.

IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **442 (3%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 21 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 15 Medical Cases (MC), 29 members of Single Parent Families (SP), 2 Single Females (SF), 3 Physically Disabled (PD), 7 Special Cases (SC), 10 member of Poor Families (PF) and 2 Drug Addicted (DA).

### Head of IOM Afghanistan in Iran

IOM Afghanistan's Chief of Mission visited Iran from 15-19 September to meet with key stakeholders and explore possible synergies. Meetings were held with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Directorate General for the Bureau for Aliens & Foreign Immigrants Affairs (BAFIA), the United Nations Resident Coordinator, Diplomatic Representatives from Afghanistan, Turkey and the EU, UN agencies, NGOs and student groups. Discussions centered on undocumented Afghans living and returning from Iran and possible cross border programmatic linkages.

## Situation Overview

Since 01 January 2018, IOM is responding to the return of over 577,000 undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Undocumented returns from Iran in particular are seeing a massive increase of more than 272,000 to over 507,000 total between January-September 2018 versus 235,000 during the same time period in 2017, largely driven by recent political and economic issues in Iran including massive currency devaluation. As Afghans primarily work in the informal economy in Iran the demand for this type of work is drastically reduced. Further as all Afghans typically send home their earnings in the form of monthly remittances, the Afghan economy itself, already evident in the drought affected provinces of Herat, Badghis and Ghor, is suffering direct and immediate effects.

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**Return from Pakistan**

A total of **505** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 16 –22 September 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 480 were spontaneous returnees and 25 were deported. This number marks an **48% decrease** compared to the previous week (969). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 25,153. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **90%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (452 individuals).

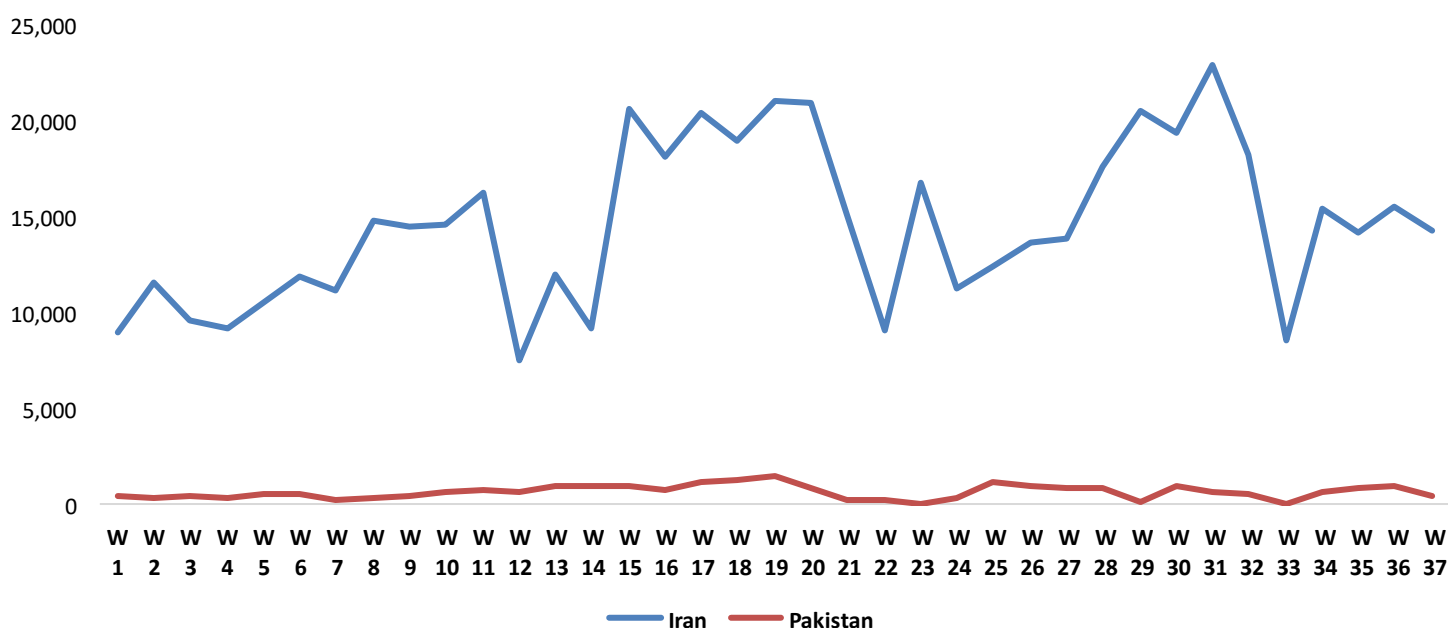
**Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)**

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - June 18	10,853	10,186	169,339	55,389	1086	524	113,182	165,991	22,649	503,901	526,550
01 - 08 Sep	437	480	7,660	3,521	113	0	3,656	3,308	1,030	18,145	19,175
09 - 15 Sep	383	520	5,021	2,046	55	11	4,694	3,903	969	15,664	16,633
16 - 22 Sep	260	220	4,493	1,898	19	6	4,478	3,492	505	14,361	14,866
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,933</b>	<b>11,406</b>	<b>186,513</b>	<b>62,854</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>126,010</b>	<b>176,694</b>	<b>25,153</b>	<b>552,071</b>	<b>577,224</b>

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

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - June 18	10,339	8,378	469	1,128	257	43	8,080	9,500	19,017	19,177	38,194
01 - 08 Sep	244	528	15	30	0	0	339	220	772	604	1,376
09 - 15 Sep	381	478	9	4	0	0	149	312	859	474	1,333
16 - 22 Sep	256	196	10	8	0	0	161	263	452	442	894
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,220</b>	<b>9,580</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>8,729</b>	<b>10,295</b>	<b>21,100</b>	<b>20,697</b>	<b>41,797</b>

**Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week**



*IOM Afghanistan has assisted 41,797 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.*

