



Waves of undocumented Afghan returnees from Iran arriving at the IOM Screening Center on Melak border in Nimroz province © E Schwoerer / IOM Afghanistan

Highlights

530,578 total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

507,811 total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018

22,767 total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

15,468 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

705 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

4% of returnees from Iran (577 individuals) assisted

76% of returnees from Pakistan (535 individuals) assisted

Return from Iran

A total of **15,468** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 19—25 August 2018, **78% more** than in the previous week; an anticipated increase after Eid Al-Adha. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 507,811.

Due current funding gaps, IOM was only able to provide post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **577 (4%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 34 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 20 Medical Cases (MC), 64 members of Single Parent Families (SP), 2 Single Female (SF), 2 Physical Disabled (PD), 4 Unaccompanied Elderly (UE), 18 Special Cases (SC), 67 member of poor families (PF) and 1 Drug Addicted (DA).

High Level UN Mission To Assess Situation of Drought Affected Afghans in Herat

A high-level delegation of the heads of WHO, UNICEF, IOM and OCHA travelled to Herat to visit displacement sites. The delegation has also met with the deputy Governor of Herat province and the Humanitarian Regional Team to better understand what is needed to assist drought affected Afghans. According to UN reports, the ongoing drought has been the worst in decades and has caused more than 150,000 Afghans to leave their homes in rural areas and settle in camps in Qala-e Naw (Badghis) and Herat city.

Situation Overview

Since 01 January 2018, IOM is responding to the return of over 530,000 undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Undocumented returns from Iran in particular are seeing a massive increase of more than 200,000 in 2018 to over 460,000 total versus 187,000 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 **705** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 26 August –01 September 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 598 were spontaneous returnees and 107 were deported. This number marks an anticipated increase after Eid Al-Adha. The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 22,062. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **76%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (535 individuals).

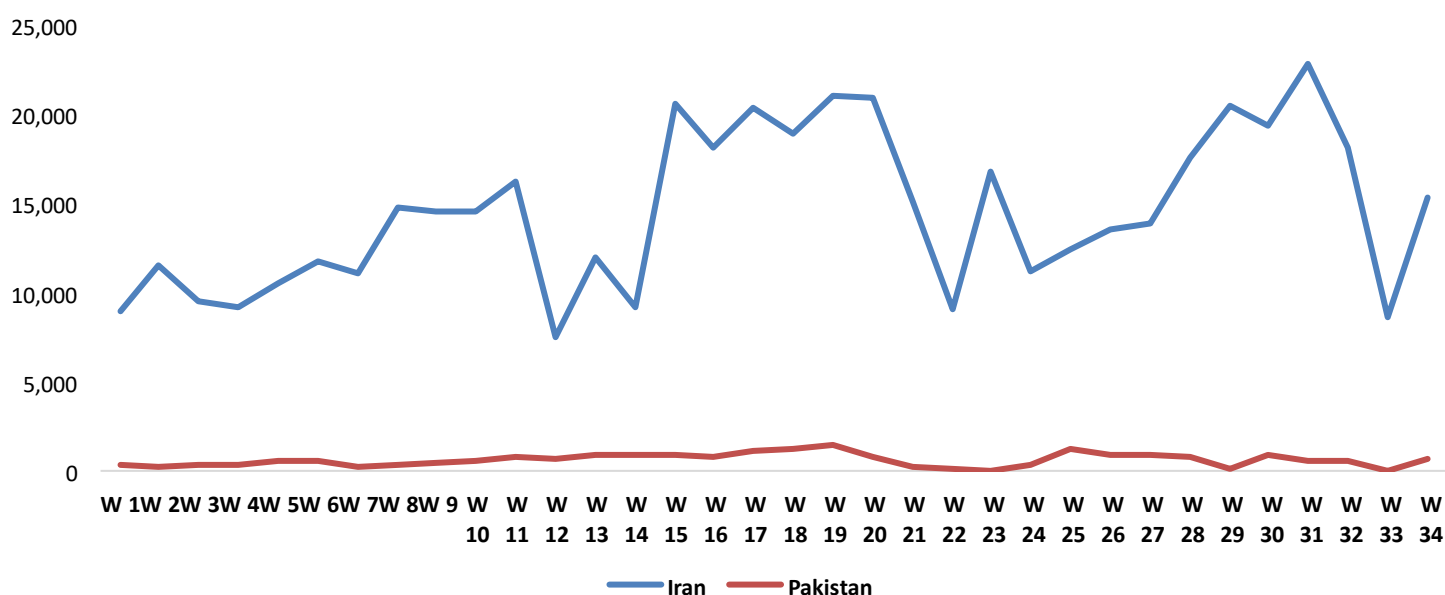
Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - June 18	9,896	9,139	135,947	46,659	764	502	94,554	151,781	20,301	428,941	449,242
01 - 11 Aug	490	554	17,368	4,036	99	0	7,021	7,986	1,143	36,411	37,554
12 - 18 August	187	254	8,289	2,099	122	0	4,291	3,650	563	18,329	18,892
19 - 25 August	26	0	4,215	641	29	0	3,062	744	55	8,662	8,717
26 Aug - 01 Sep	268	330	6,444	2,263	102	5	4,564	2,197	705	15,468	16,173
Total	10,867	10,277	172,263	55,698	1,116	507	113,492	166,358	22,767	507,811	530,578

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

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - June 18	9,382	7,457	437	827	189	43	6,761	8,780	17,071	16,805	33,876
01 - 11 Aug	490	538	21	130	21	0	520	342	1,049	1,013	2,062
12 - 18 August	187	209	6	66	20	0	431	241	416	744	1,160
19 - 25 August	26	0	0	21	5	0	41	0	31	62	93
26 Aug - 01 Sep	254	259	11	87	22	0	335	144	535	577	1,112
Total	10,339	8,463	475	1,131	257	43	8,088	9,507	19,102	19,201	38,303

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 38,303 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.

