



Returnees from Iran wait to be registered at the IOM Reception Center near Milak border in Nimroz. © IOM 2017

Highlights

5,653 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

8,914 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

45,230 total returns from Pakistan since 1 January 2017

109,966 total returns from Iran since 1 January 2017

89% of returnees from Pakistan (5,004 individuals) assisted

5% of returnees from Iran (431 individuals) assisted

Returns from Pakistan

A total of **5,653** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through Torkham (Nangarhar province) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar province) border crossings from 23-29 April, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 5,629 were spontaneous returnees in family groups and 24 were deported individuals. This is a **14% decrease** from the previous week, and brings the total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 1 January 2017 to **45,230**.

IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **89%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (5,004 individuals), including 858 single parents 13 special cases, and one mentally ill person. The assistance provided includes meals, accommodation, Non-Food Items (NFIs), onward transportation and referral services, as well as support from partners (see Annex 1).

Cash grants for onward transportation totaling \$90,410 were provided to 506 families (2,884 individuals) at Torkham and Kandahar Transit Centers.



A family returning from Pakistan at Spin Boldak border. © IOM 2017

Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since 1 January 2017, over 155,000 undocumented Afghans have returned due to diverse push factors, including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan. 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. IOM estimates that approximately 600,000 undocumented Afghans could return from Pakistan and Iran in 2017, and is working to scale up its support to returnees in coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and other humanitarian partners.

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Returns from Iran

A total of **8,914** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through Islam Qala (Herat) and Milak (Nimroz) border crossings from 23-29 April, a 45% decrease compared with the previous week. The significant decline in returns was due to poor weather conditions (high winds). Out of the total spontaneous returnees, 380 (14%) were in family groups and 2,269 (86%) were individuals. Similarly, out of the total deportees, 452 (7%) were in family groups whereas 5,813 (93%) were individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 1 January 2017 to **109,966**. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **431 (5%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz.

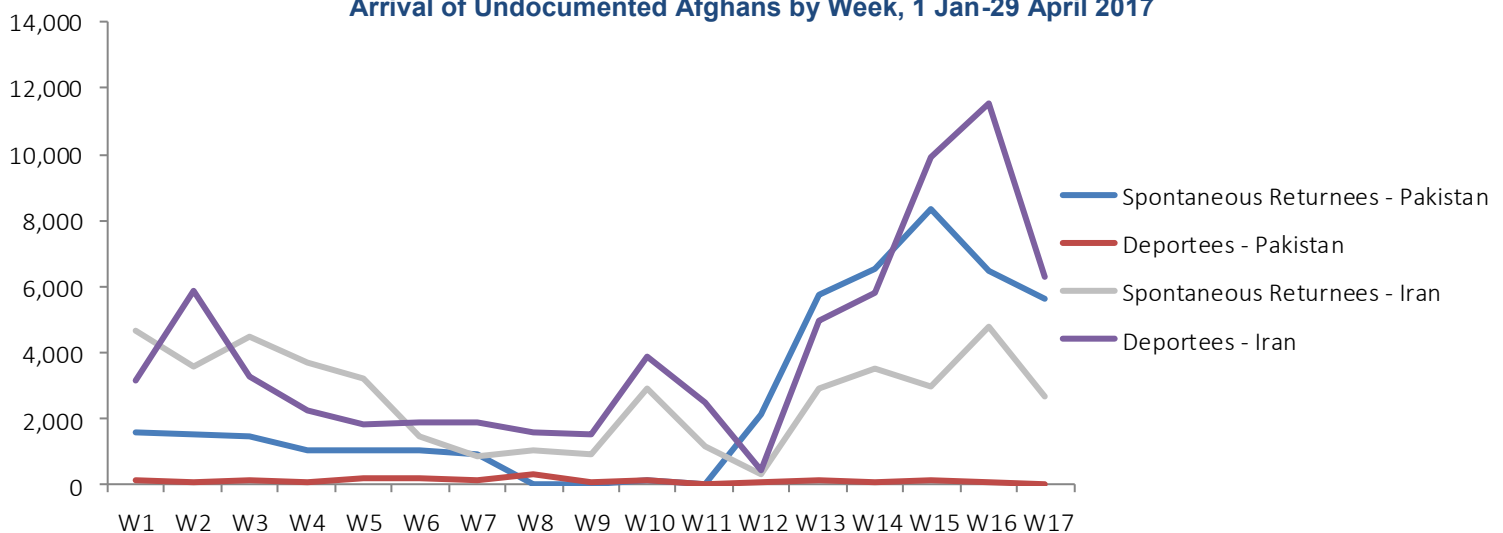
Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2017 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand Total
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	
Jan 17	3,605	2,294	15,918	2,555	273	226	6,872	5,599	6,398	30,944	37,342
Feb 17	1,961	595	1,154	3,522	485	168	256	6,553	3,209	11,485	14,694
Mar 17	2,996	3,887	3	7,632	325	20	0	12,466	7,228	20,134	27,362
1 Apr	740	394	0	0	1	0	0	0	1,135	0	1,135
2-8 Apr	3,783	2,761	0	3,508	84	0	0	5,807	6,628	9,315	15,943
9-15 Apr	5,534	2,788	0	2,939	61	45	0	9,912	8,428	12,851	21,279
16-22 Apr	4,965	1,500	0	4,797	63	23	0	11,526	6,551	16,323	22,874
23-29 Apr	3,716	1,913	1	2,648	24	0	4	6,261	5,653	8,914	14,567
Total	27,300	16,132	17,076	27,601	1,316	482	7,165	58,124	45,230	109,966	155,196

IOM-Assisted Undocumented Afghans in 2017 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand Total
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	
Jan 17	3,022	2,109	53	32	74	213	583	405	5,418	1,073	6,491
Feb 17	1,829	359	26	80	63	115	24	839	2,366	969	3,335
Mar 17	2,905	2,477	3	66	115	0	20	952	5,497	1,041	6,538
1 Apr	736	107	0	0	0	0	0	0	843	0	843
2-8 Apr	3,640	1,343	0	16	18	0	0	388	5,001	404	5,405
9-15 Apr	4,356	1,199	0	1	9	36	0	476	5,600	477	6,077
16-22 Apr	4,827	1,002	0	0	3	5	0	334	5,837	334	6,171
23-29 Apr	3,665	1,325	1	9	14	0	2	419	5,004	431	5,435
Total	24,980	9,921	83	204	296	369	629	3,813	35,566	4,729	40,295

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week, 1 Jan-29 April 2017



Annex 1: Detailed Breakdown of Assistance Provided by Partners at Torkham BCP, 23-29 April 2017

Organization	Location	Type of Assistance	Families Assisted	Total Individuals Assisted	Males	Females	Boys	Girls
WFP	Transit Center	Food package	667	3,665	604	719	1,163	1,179
WHO	Transit Center	Medical services	88	157	12	68	27	50
	Transit Center	OPV vaccination for children (>10 years)	-	98	-	-	n/a	n/a
	Transit Center	IPV vaccination for children (<10 years)	-	463	-	-	213	250
	Transit Center	Measles vaccination for children (<10)	-	489	-	-	224	265
UNICEF	Transit Center	Hygiene kits	667	3,665	604	719	1,163	1,179
UNICEF	Transit Center	Family kits	179	1,011	165	206	322	318
UNICEF	Transit Center	Hygiene awareness training	667	3,665	604	719	1,163	1,179
UNICEF	Transit Center	Child Friendly Space	-	1,042	-	-	521	521
UNICEF	Transit Center	Nutrition services for children (6-59 mo), pregnant women & lactating mothers	-	680	0	239	215	226
UNFPA	Transit Center	Dignity kits	0	0	0	0	0	0
AADA	Zero Point	Medical services	-	756	291	245	104	116
	Zero Point	OPV vaccination for children (<10 years)	-	1,994	-	-	n/a	n/a
	Zero Point	OPV vaccination for children (>10 years)	-	1,273	-	-	n/a	n/a
	Zero Point	IPV vaccination for children (<10 years)	-	284	-	-	140	144
	Zero Point	Measles vaccination for children (<10)	-	257	-	-	126	131
	Zero Point	HIV/AIDS awareness	-	888	205	244	167	272
AADA/UNICEF	Zero Point	Nutrition services for children (6-59 mo), pregnant women & lactating mothers	-	313	-	85	121	107
UNMAS/DDG	Transit Center	Mine Risk Education	-	3,757	551	544	1,475	1,187

Annex 2: Breakdown of Assistance Provided at all Border Crossings, 23-29 April 2017

Categories	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Total
Non-Food Item (NFI) Kits	667	180	0	82	929
Family Winter Kits	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Care	157	160	0	0	317
Tuberculosis Screening	3,679	1,325	0	415	5,419
Overnight Accommodation	49	462	3	421	935
Total	4,552	2,127	3	918	7,600

IOM Afghanistan's Returnee Response is generously supported by:

