
 **254,766** Total returns from Iran
Pakistan since 01 January 2021

 **251,466** Total returns from Iran
2021

 **3,300** Total returns from
Pakistan in 2021

*to caption- IOM's Rapid Response Teams
ue to work within communities to provide
eillance support and ongoing testing for
ID-19. In March, in the province of Herat,
IOM's RRTs tested 2,573 individuals and
detected 546 positive cases– a test positivity rate
of just over 21% in the areas where IOM works.
Wider testing results showed a total positivity rate
of 38% in Herat during March. New funding is
urgently needed to continue this essential service
especially as new viral variants of concern enter
the country. @IOM, March 2021.*

According to the Border Monitoring Team of the
Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR)

[Return from Iran](#)

[Return from Pakistan](#)



251,466
Total returns from Iran in 2021



3,300
Total returns from Pakistan in 2021



22,034 Returns during past week*
(**11,952** returned voluntarily
and **10,082** were deported)



368 Returns during past week
(**352** returned voluntarily
and **16** were deported)



1,636 (7%) Assisted



366 (99%) Assisted

*returns have now resumed regular
patterns post-Nawroz New Year
holidays in Iran/Afghanistan

Return of Undocumented Afghans from Iran - 2019 - 2021



Protection

IOM's Protection programme has supported 878 undocumented returnee households comprising at least one person with specific needs (PSN) in 2021 through provision of timely information, facilitating safe and dignified access to services, and provision of assistance including cash to mitigate identified protection risks and avoid resorting to negative coping mechanisms when referral pathways are exhausted. With screening

Migration Health

In 2021, 143,873 patients have been served by IOM's Migration Health Unit in Nimroz, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar provinces with basic health care- outpatient consultations, maternal, child and neo-natal health care, reproductive health, family planning and COVID-19 response.

staff at the Herat and Nimroz border points and case workers in 12 provinces of return, the Protection team caseload this week included case management assessments for 40 new PSN households in Faryab, Balkh, Ghor, Nangarhar, Kunduz, Nimroz, Badakhshan. These cases included 16 children at risk, 7 persons with serious medical conditions, 3 women at risk, 2 older persons at risk. 671 PSN individuals (and their households) were identified at Milak and Islam Qala border points by Protection screeners in coordination with DoRR. Over the past week, IOM provided the following assistance:



40 new PSN households



16 children at risk
7 persons with medical conditions
3 women at risk
2 older persons at risk

Programming is supported by the UK's FCDO, DG ECHO, CERF, and the United States' Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM).

During the past week a total of 7,926 patients were served by IOM's 7 mobile health teams, inclusive of 3,758 outpatient consultations, health education sessions for 7,926 persons and psychosocial counselling sessions for 1,177 patients.

Under the Global Fund multi-country TB grant in partnership with UNDP, a total of 10,032 undocumented Afghans were screened for tuberculosis at the Zero Point Reception Centres in Herat, Nimroz, Kandahar and Nangarhar. Of the total screened, 278 presumptive TB cases were identified and 2 persons were confirmed positive for TB.



143,873 Patients served in 2021
7,926 Patients served during the past week



3,758 Out patient consultation



7,926 Health education sessions



1,177 Psychosocial counselling



10,032 Screened for Tuberculosis

278 Samples tested
2 Confirmed positive for TB

Funding Needs in 2021

In 2021 under the revised Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan, IOM is projecting a return of 654,000 undocumented Afghans, 100% of whom will be in need of humanitarian assistance. IOM is seeking 29.7 M USD to ensure continuity of services. As of 30 March, IOM's Cross Border Return Response is only 5% funded with new contributions in 2021 from the Governments of Norway, Japan and Switzerland.

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall R
	Herat		Nimroz			Torkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01 Jan-28 Feb 2021	43,410	36,814	21,244	42,852	144,320	97	110	1170	84	1461	145,7
01-18 March 2021	27,025	17,351	7,936	25,027	77,339	75	58	826	19	978	78,31
19-25 March 2021	105	3,741	789	3,138	7,773	45	9	438	1	493	8,26
26 March - 01 April	8,808	3,304	3,144	6,778	22,034	41	14	311	2	368	22,40
Total	79,348	61,210	33,113	77,795	251,466	258	191	2,745	106	3,300	254,7

Total Overall Weekly Return Figures in 2021

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall As
	Herat		Nimroz			Torkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01 Jan-28 Feb 2021	367	2,531	460	3,811	7,169	97	97	1079	81	1354	8,52
01-18 March 2021	359	1,112	110	2,257	3,838	75	40	795	17	927	4,76
19-25 March 2021	27	684	14	579	1,304	45	9	430	1	485	1,78
26 March - 01 April	175	681	54	726	1,636	41	14	311	0	366	2,00
Total	928	5,008	638	7,373	13,947	258	160	2,615	99	3,132	17,07

Total Assisted Returnees in 2021



Global COVID-19 Update



COVID-19 in Afghanistan

As of 05 April 2021

source Johns Hopkins- WHO-CDC-ECDC,
NHC, DXY

- Total confirmed cases: 131,965,495
- Deaths: 2,867,083
- Recovered: 106,273,279

As of 05 April

Source: Afghanistan Ministry of Public
Health - MoPH)

- Confirmed, COVID-19 cases: **56,779**
- Total recovered: **51,902**
- Total tests: **356,513**
- Deaths: **2,512**

IOM is actively supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and WHO in addressing preparedness and emergency response actions through its Cross Border Return, Migration Health and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Units. **Unfortunately the majority of all COVID-19 funding across partners agencies came to a close on 28 February 2021. New funding sources are urgently being sought. On 25 March, IOM launched its new 2021 global COVID-19 appeal– the Strategic Response and Recovery Plan. IOM Afghanistan is seeking 17m USD in 2021 to continue response efforts. The press release for the launch of the SRRP in addition to several relevant documents is available [here](#).**

IOM engagement on COVID-19 is primarily focused on the following in Afghanistan:

1. Coordination;
2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE);
3. Surveillance/DTM; and
4. Points of Entry.

Activities include training for frontline health workers, deployment of staffing to areas of need including placement in health facilities, secondment of staff to cross border surveillance, material support of PPE/equipment, ambulance based referral services and community level awareness raising efforts through health education sessions including within Displacement Tracking Matrix focus group discussions in over 12,600 settlements via a network of more than 72,000 key informants, community leaders and change makers with RCCE and hygiene awareness across all 34 provinces.

For more information please refer to: <https://afghanistan.iom.int/IOM-COVID-19-Response>

IOM Afghanistan wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to the below donor partners whose generous support has allowed IOM to assist a total of 17,079 undocumented Afghan returnees in 2021.



The United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Japan,
Norway, Switzerland, ECHO, the United States of America, and the Global Fund for
AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria



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