



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

Highlights

486,796 total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

465,352 total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018

21,444 total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

23,008 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

631 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

2% of returnees from Iran (565 individuals) assisted

93% of returnees from Pakistan (585 individuals) assisted

Return from Iran

A total of **23,008** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 05—11 August 2018 according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). This is **18% more** than in the previous week. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 465,352. Due current funding gaps, IOM was only able to provide post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **565 (2%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 54 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 17 Medical Cases (MC), 89 members of Single Parent Families (SP), 3 Single Females (SF), 2 Physical Disabled (PD), 3 Unaccompanied Elderly (UE), 25 Special Cases (SC), 56 member of poor families (PF) and 2 Drug Addicted (DA).

Road Closure Affects IOM Cross Border Operations

Due to ongoing fighting in Ghazni city which has led to the closure of the Kabul-Ghazni highway, returnees from Kandahar, Nimroz and Herat are unable to reach the capital and other areas of the country's north by the southern ring road in order to go home. In the past week over 250 returnees have been accommodated at the IOM Transit Center in Herat city and over 40 others have been transferred from Herat to the IOM Transit Center in Kandahar. Accommodation spaces are limited and alternative options are actively being sought to house and relocate stranded returnees.

Situation Overview

Since 01 January 2018, IOM is responding to the return of over 486,000 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.

CONTACT US

IOM Kabul

✉ iomkabul@iom.int

🌐 <http://afghanistan.iom.int>

[facebook.com/iomafghanistan](https://www.facebook.com/iomafghanistan)

twitter.com/iomafghanistan

Return from Pakistan

A total of **631** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 05 –11 August 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 587 were spontaneous returnees and 44 were deported. This number marks a **34% decrease** compared to the previous week (954). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 21,444. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **93%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (585 individuals).

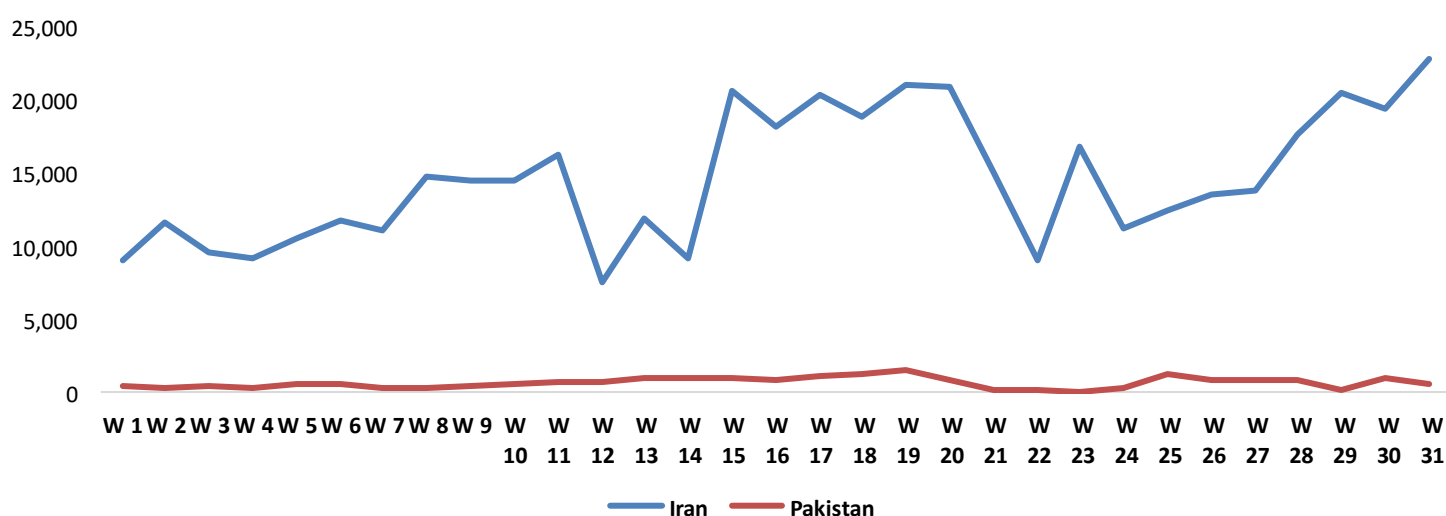
Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - June 18	8,355	7,613	113,434	38,115	560	479	75,597	129,740	17,007	356,886	373,893
01 - 21 July	1,259	1,276	14,811	5,434	179	1	11,685	13,397	2,715	45,327	48,042
22 - 28 July	92	37	7,570	2,131	8	0	5,093	5,824	137	20,618	20,755
29 Jul - 04 Aug	455	405	7,212	2,349	72	22	3,586	6,366	954	19,513	20,467
05 - 11 Aug	225	362	10,288	2,666	44	0	5,614	4,440	631	23,008	23,639
Total	10,386	9,693	153,315	50,695	863	502	101,575	159,767	21,444	465,352	486,796

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	8,339	7,147	428	638	162	43	5,902	8,258	15,691	15,226	30,917
01 - 21 July	761	75	5	3	25	0	416	81	861	505	1,366
22 - 28 July	92	37	4	120	1	0	239	270	130	633	763
29 Jul - 04 Aug	455	390	0	129	8	0	394	366	853	889	1,742
05 - 11 August	225	346	21	67	14	0	330	147	585	565	1,150
Total	9,872	7,995	458	957	210	43	7,281	9,122	18,120	17,818	35,938

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 35,938 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.

