



An undocumented returnee family outside their makeshift shelter in Gamberi settlement, Laghman.
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Highlights

1,579 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

9,378 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

251,411 total returns from Pakistan since 1 January 2016

461,112 total returns from Iran since 1 January 2016

79% of returnees from Pakistan (1,243 individuals) assisted

2% of returnees from Iran (231 individuals) assisted

Returns from Pakistan

From 8-14 January 2017, a total of **1,579** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through Torkham border (Nangarhar province) and Spin Boldak border (Kandahar province), according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). This is a 4% decrease from last week, with deportations decreasing by 11%. Of the total, 1,501 were spontaneous returnees in family groups and 78 were deported individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan to **251,411** since 1 January 2016.

During the reporting period, IOM assisted **1,243 (79%)** undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan, including 148 single parent families and 13 special cases. The support provided includes meals and accommodation at IOM's Transit Centers near the border, household supplies and other Non-Food Items (NFIs) for families, special assistance to Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs), a one-month food ration from WFP, family and hygiene kits from UNICEF and dignity kits from UNFPA.

Socio-Economic Survey

IOM's socio-economic survey of undocumented returnees from Pakistan is ongoing at Torkham border. The latest survey results cover 306 families through 31 December 2016.

The substantial majority of returnees (76%) still indicate that Nangarhar province is their final destination, followed by Kabul (16%), Laghman (4%), Kunar (2%) and Logar (2%). Shelter remains a pressing issue for the families surveyed, with 52% indicating it as their top priority need, followed by financial support (23%) and job opportunities (7%). The full survey results can be downloaded on [IOM Afghanistan's website](#).

Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since 1 January 2016, over 712,000 undocumented Afghans have returned due to diverse push factors, including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan. Many 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 into a country already struggling with widespread conflict and displacement.

While returns have declined in line with seasonal trends during winter, previous surges in returns have been unpredictable and an estimated 1.1 million Afghans still remain in Pakistan. IOM is prepared to respond to increased needs and is appealing for additional funding to continue its emergency response programming.

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Returns from Iran

A total of **9,378** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through Islam Qala (Herat) and Milak (Nimroz) border crossings from 8-14 January, a 21% increase compared with the previous week. Out of the total, 3,531 were spontaneous returnees and 5,847 were deportees. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 1 January 2016 to **461,112**.

IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **231 (2%)** undocumented Afghans arriving from Iran at its Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz, including 101 unaccompanied migrant children (UMC). UMCs make up the largest group of vulnerable returnees from Iran, and have unique protection concerns. IOM provides UMCs with specialized assistance including medical care, safe accommodation and family tracing.

A gap in assistance remains, as DoRR estimates that approximately 10% of undocumented Afghans returning from Iran are in need of humanitarian assistance.

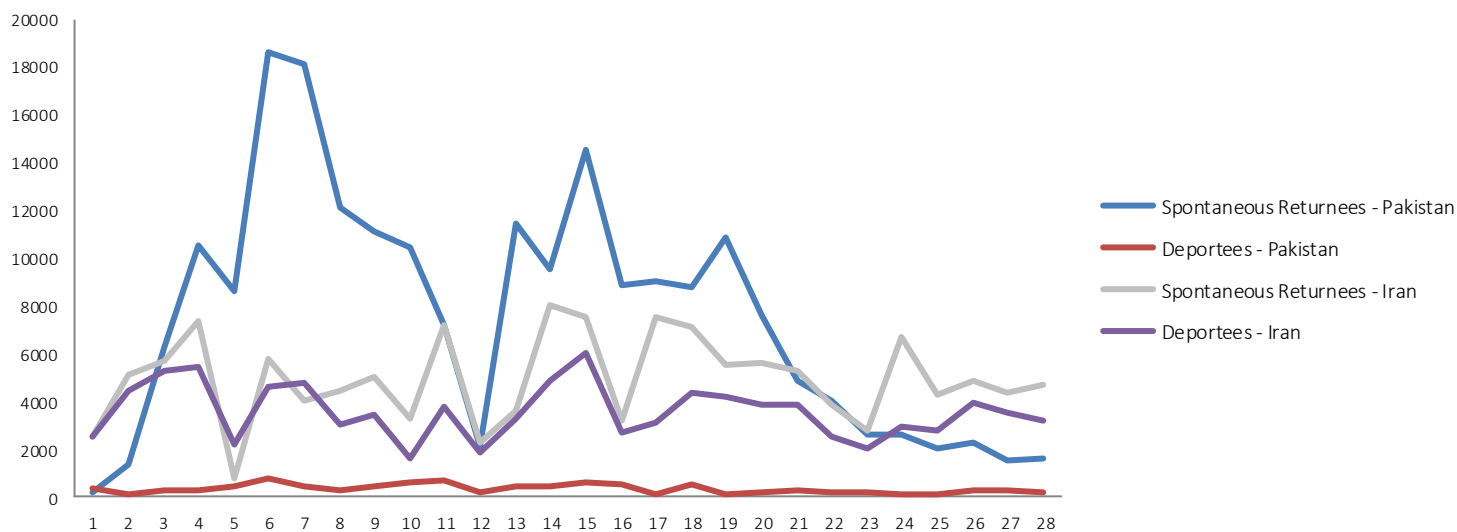
Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2016-17 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak			
2016	198,973	26,657	212,017	36,636	12,731	9,828	123,936	71,379	248,189	443,968	692,157
1-7 Jan 17	717	836	4,008	625	20	70	1,786	1,347	1,643	7,766	9,409
8-14 Jan 17	1,008	493	3,114	417	78	-	4,845	1,002	1,579	9,378	10,957
Total	200,698	27,986	219,139	37,678	12,829	9,898	130,567	73,728	251,411	461,112	712,523

IOM-Assisted Undocumented Afghans in 2016-17 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Islam Qala	Milak			
2016	58,504	5,781	940	1,084	1832	167	10213	7034	66,284	19,271	85,555
1-7 Jan 17	636	779	2	2	5	70	110	85	1,490	199	1,689
8-14 Jan 17	763	467	5	4	13	0	172	50	1,243	231	1,474
Total	59,903	7,027	947	1,090	1,850	237	10,495	7,169	69,017	19,701	88,718

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week, 1 July 2016 to 14 January 2017



IOM Afghanistan's Returnee Response is generously supported by:

