



IOM is providing health education sessions on COVID-19 to local communities. This session for women and children was carried out by one of IOM's Mobile Health Teams on the outskirts of Kandahar city. @IOM, May 2020

Return from Iran

According to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), a total of **6,870** Afghans returned from Iran through the Nimroz (Milak) and Herat (Islam Qala) borders between 03-09 May 2020, an **18%** increase from the previous week (**5,801**). **3,251** persons returned voluntarily and **3,619** were deported. Since 01 January 2020, the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran is **279,738** individuals. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **991 (14%)** of all undocumented Afghans from Iran at its Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz. The holy month of Ramadan which concludes on 24 May has seen a slowdown in returns from Iran against the all-time highs witnessed in March.

****Coronavirus Update****

IOM is actively supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and WHO in addressing preparedness and emergency coordination actions through its Cross Border Return, Migration Health and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Units.

IOM support is primarily focused across 4 of WHO's Global Response Pillars include 1. Coordination; 2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement; 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 and other equipment, ambulance based referral services, distribution of MOPH-WHO IEC materials and community level awareness raising and sensitization efforts through health education sessions including within Displacement Tracking Matrix focus group discussions in 9,441 settlements across 25 provinces. For more information please refer to <https://afghanistan.iom.int/IOM-COVID-19-Response>

Highlights

279,738 total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2020

277,905 total returns from Iran

1,833 total returns from Pakistan

Over the past week **6,870** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran with **14%** of returnees from Iran (**991** individuals) assisted

Over the past week **0** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan, due to extended Pakistani frontier closure

IOM Thematic Support

Migration Health:

During the past week, IOM's Mobile Health Teams served **9,920** patients in need of health services with **99,081** patients served since the beginning of MHT programming in late January under DFID and CERF funding. 15 health staff are presently deployed to major border crossing points with Iran to provide support to ongoing COVID-19 response efforts inclusive. Over **400** community health workers have also been trained on personal protective measures in Nimroz, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar and new trainings are planned in the coming weeks in Kandahar and Helmand.

Under Migration Health's Global Fund's multi-country TB grant, a total of **4,636** undocumented Afghans were screened for tuberculosis in IOM Transit Centers over the past week. Of the total screened, **2,621** persons were screened from OPD consultations, **77** persons were identified and **73** were tested to be presumptive TB cases and **1** was detected TB cases.

Protection:

The Protection Unit completed case management assessments for 104 PSN cases in Ghor, Herat, Kabul, Faryab, Sar-i-Pul, Balkh, Kunduz, Takhar, and Nimroz, including, 59 special cases, 24 poor families, 15 unaccompanied migrant children, and 6 medical cases.

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Return from Pakistan

According to the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation’s Border Monitoring Team, **1,833** undocumented Afghans have returned from Pakistan since 01 January 2020. The Afghan frontier with Pakistan at Spin Boldak (closed on 02 March) and at Torkham (closed on 16 March) is mainly closed due to coronavirus related restrictions however limited exemptions have been granted for the return of stranded Afghan and Pakistani nationals from Afghanistan and Pakistan back to their respective countries. Commercial vehicles are permitted to cross in both directions Monday through Friday.

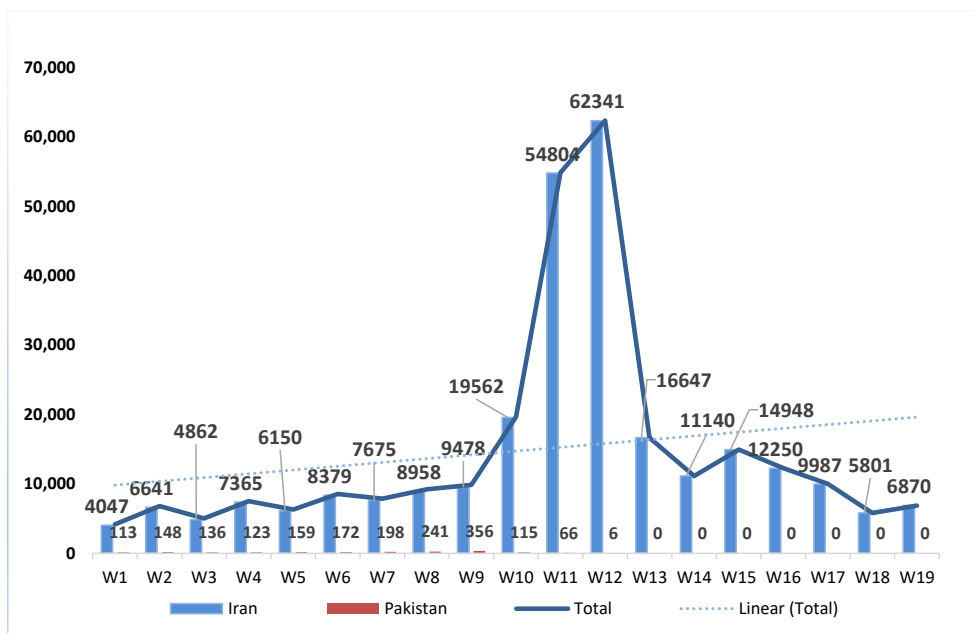
Total Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2020

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall Return
	Herat		Nimroz			Turkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01-31 Jan 2020	7,006	4,427	5,784	10,871	28,088	203	14	445	0	662	28,750
01-29 Feb 2020	10,146	6,246	6,297	12,778	35,467	306	14	664	0	984	36,451
01-31 March 2020	111,648	515	39,207	8,232	159,602	97	6	84	0	187	159,789
01-30 April 2020	27,867	497	12,158	6,216	46,738	0	0	0	0	0	46,738
01-02 May 2020	270	85	314	471	1,140	0	0	0	0	0	1,140
03-09 May 2020	2,149	671	1,102	2,948	6,870	0	0	0	0	0	6,870
Total	159,086	12,441	64,862	41,516	277,905	606	34	1,193	0	1,833	279,738

Total Number of Assisted Returnees in 2020

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall Assisted
	Herat		Nimroz			Turkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01-31 Jan 2020	181	1,247	32	1,108	2,568	203	13	405	0	621	3,189
01-29 Feb 2020	232	2,818	84	1,360	4,494	306	13	549	0	868	5,362
01-31 March 2020	4,760	206	1,935	1,642	8,543	97	3	73	0	173	8,716
01-30 April 2020	5,093	61	4,284	2,784	12,222	0	0	0	0	0	12,222
01-02 May 2020	60	32	30	79	201	0	0	0	0	0	201
03-09 May 2020	429	214	48	300	991	0	0	0	0	0	991
Total	10,755	4,578	6,413	7,273	29,019	606	29	1,027	0	1,662	30,681

Return of Undocumented Afghans from Iran and Pakistan—Weekly Trends for 2020



IOM Afghanistan wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to the below donors whose support has allowed IOM to assist a total of 30,681 undocumented Afghan returnees in 2020



The United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID), the Netherlands, Japan, Switzerland, Canada, ECHO, United States of America, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

