



Newly arrived deportees eating lunch at Zaranj Transit Centre in Nimroz province
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Highlights

47,403 total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 Jan 2019

45,390 total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2019

2,013 total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2019

5,085 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

319 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

8% of returnees from Iran (382 individuals) assisted

88% of returnees from Pakistan (294 individuals) assisted

Return from Iran

A total of **5,085** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 10—10 Feb 2019, **6% less** than in the previous week (5,387). **2,156** returned voluntarily, **2,929** were deported. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 45,390. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **382 (8%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 49 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 50 Medical Cases (MC), 44 members of Single Parent Families (SP), 10 Physically Disabled (PD), 62 Special Cases (SC), 4 Unaccompanied Elderly (UE), 2 Drug Addicted (DA), 20 members of a Poor Family (PF), 3 Single Females (SF) and 1 Chronically Ill (CI).

Protection Assistance for Returnees

The protection unit assessed a total of 135 PSN cases in Jawzjan, Nimroz, Baghlan, Herat, Kandahar, Kabul, Ghor, Takhar, Faryab, Kunduz, Balkh, and Sarei Pul provinces. Of the total assessed cases, 57 were unaccompanied migrant children (UMC), 52 female heads of households (FHH), 8 medical cases (MC), 10 Special cases (SC), 2 Physical Disabled (PD), 4 Elderly at risk and 2 Drug Addicts.

During the reporting period, 25 Unaccompanied Migrant Children, 18 Female Headed household, 4 Single Females, 3 Medical Cases and 2 Elderly at risk were assisted in Balkh and Kunduz province.

Situation Overview

In 2018, more than 800,000 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran and Pakistan. While the return from Pakistan witnessed a significant decrease of 70% compared with 2017 (98,000), returns from Iran increased by over 300,000 persons up from 462,000 in 2017 to over 770,000 in 2018. This sharp rise is largely driven by recent political and economic issues in Iran. Afghans primarily work in the informal economy in Iran and the demand for this type of work has drastically reduced. As many Afghans living and working in Iran send home monthly remittances representing as much as 6% of Afghanistan's total GDP, Afghan families are increasingly struggling to make ends meet, particularly in the drought affected provinces of Herat, Badghis and Ghor.

In 2019, IOM is projecting a return of over 570,000 returnees from Iran linked to ongoing economic challenges and a minimum of 50,000 returns from Pakistan, a figure that has already been endorsed by the Governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan. The remaining undocumented and Afghan Citizenship Card holding caseloads of more than 1,000,000 people may also face deportation from Pakistan in 2019.

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Return from Pakistan

A total of **319** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 10—16 Feb 2019, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 177 were spontaneous returnees and 139 were deported undocumented Afghans. This number marks an **12% decrease** compared to the previous week (361). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2019 is now 2,013. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **92%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (294 individuals).

Number of Undocumented Returnees vs. Assisted by IOM in 2019 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Return of Undocumented Afghan				Total Return	Assisted Returnee by IOM				Total Assisted	% Assisted
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz		Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz		
01 - 05 Jan 2019	40	385	3,267	2,454	6,146	40	317	81	145	583	9%
06 - 12 Jan 2019	100	105	4,056	3,734	7,995	49	105	220	199	573	7%
13 - 19 Jan 2019	75	245	4,389	3,086	7,795	54	205	260	217	736	9%
20 - 26 Jan 2019	41	175	4,074	2,989	7,279	22	150	238	249	659	9%
27 Jan - 02 Feb 19	111	56	3,292	3,577	7,036	89	45	217	225	576	8%
03 - 09 Feb 2019	79	282	2,136	3,251	5,748	62	259	108	211	640	11%
10 - 16 Feb 2019	59	260	2,509	2,576	5,404	45	249	134	248	676	13%
Total	505	1,508	23,723	21,667	47,403	361	1,330	1,258	1,494	4,443	9%

PSNs Assisted by IOM 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

PSNs Assisted 27 Jan—02 Feb 2019	Persons						Total
	From Iran			From Pakistan			
	Islam Qala	Milak	Sub-Total	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Sub-Total	
Poor Family (PF)	10	10	20	24	110	134	154
Unaccompanied Migrant Children	30	19	49	0	24	24	73
Single Parents Family (SP)	5	39	44	17	24	41	85
Special Cases (SC)	28	34	62	4	91	95	157
Medical Case (MC)	26	24	50	0	0	0	50
Physically Disabled (PD)	4	6	10	0	0	0	10
Unaccompanied Elderly (UE)	3	1	4	0	0	0	4
Drug Addicted (DA)	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Single Female (SF)	3	0	3	0	0	0	3
Mentally Ill (MI)	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Chronically Ill (CI)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A: Total PSNs	111	134	245	45	249	294	539
B: Deported Families	23	114	137	0	0	0	137
Total (A&B)	134	248	382	45	249	294	676

IOM Afghanistan has assisted a total of 4,443 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2019, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

Migration for the benefit of all.

