



*IOM completed multiple workshops on Camp Coordination and Camp Management throughout 2020 for IOM and partner organization staff in Nimroz, Herat, Kandahar and Jalalabad including modules on principled humanitarian access and the Joint Operating Principles. @ IOM, December 2020*

## Return from Iran

2020 is the largest ever return year on record for undocumented Afghan migrants with the total exceeding the 805,000 migrants that returned in 2018.

According to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), a total of **27,396** Afghans returned from Iran through the Nimroz (Milak) and Herat (Islam Qala) borders between 20-31 December 2020, a **32%** decrease from the previous two week (**40,519**). **16,357** persons returned voluntarily and **11,039** were deported. New COVID-19 related lockdown restrictions in Iran have had an impact on overall returns. Since 01 January 2020, the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran is **859,092** individuals. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **807 (3%)** undocumented Afghans at the IOM Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz during the past two week.

## \*\*COVID-19 Pandemic 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 over 12,335 settlements across 34 provinces. For more information please refer to <https://afghanistan.iom.int/IOM-COVID-19-Response>

## 2020 Highlights

**865,793** total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2020

**859,092** total returns from Iran in 2020

**6,701** total returns from Pakistan in 2020

Over the past two weeks **27,396** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran with **3%** of returnees from Iran (**807** individuals) assisted

Over the past two weeks **205** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan with **95%** of returnees from Pakistan (**195** individuals) assisted

## IOM Thematic Support

### Migration Health:

In 2020, **575,564** patients have been served by IOM's Migration Health Unit in Nimroz, Helmand, Ghor, 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. Programming is supported by the UK's FCDO, the Governments of Japan, Canada, Germany, DG ECHO, CERF, the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund and the United States' Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM).

During the past two weeks a total of **26,146** patients were served by IOM's 7 mobile health teams, inclusive of **6,765** outpatient consultations, health education sessions for **19,381** persons and psychosocial counselling sessions for **2,247** patients.

Under the Global Fund multi-country TB grant in partnership with UNDP, a total of **22,726** undocumented Afghans were screened for tuberculosis at the Zero Point Reception Centres in Herat, Nimroz, Kandahar and Nangarhar. Of the total screened, **632** presumptive TB cases were identified and samples lab tested, **16** persons were confirmed positive for TB.

### Protection:

IOM's Protection programme supported 4,273 undocumented returnee households comprising at least one Person with Specific Needs (PSN) in 2020 through the 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 staff operating at the Herat and Nimroz border points as well as case workers in 11 provinces of return, the Protection team completed case management assessments for 137 PSN households in Nimroz, Ghor, Takhar, Sar-e-Pul, Kunduz, and Faryab. These cases included 17 persons with serious medical conditions, 13 older persons at risk, 14 women at risk, 15 children at risk, 5 persons with disabilities, 3 unaccompanied migrant children and 1 single parent. 1,833 cases are open and 2,517 cases have been closed.

The Protection team conducts regular COVID-19 protection monitoring surveys in collaboration with the Afghanistan Protection Cluster. Over the past two weeks, 257 households were surveyed, all of whom received specific WHO information and RCCE messaging on COVID-19 awareness and prevention relevant to their location. whom received specific WHO information and RCCE messaging on COVID-19 awareness and prevention relevant to their location.

## CONTACT US

IOM Kabul

✉ [nbishop@iom.int](mailto:nbishop@iom.int)

🌐 <http://afghanistan.iom.int>

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

[twitter.com/iomafghanistan](https://twitter.com/iomafghanistan)

**Return from Pakistan**

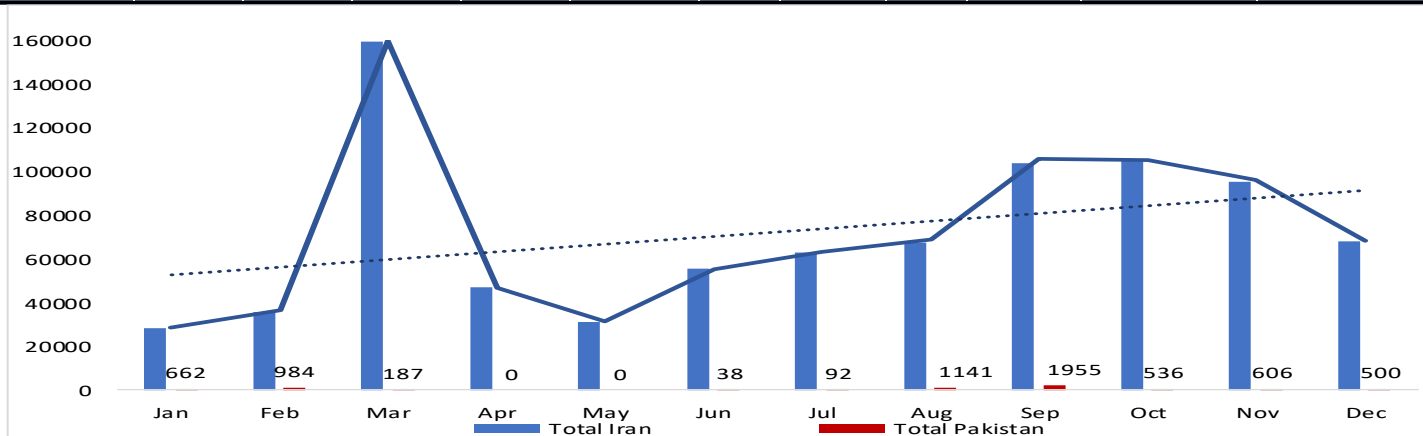
According to the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), **6,701** undocumented Afghans have returned from Pakistan since 01 January 2020. Over the past week **205** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan through the Torkham (**38** deportees) and Spin Boldak (**146** returnees and **21** deportees) borders.

**Total Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2020**

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall Return
	Herat		Nimroz			Torkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
Jan-20	7,006	4,427	5,784	10,871	28,088	203	14	445	0	662	28,750
Feb-20	10,146	6,246	6,297	12,778	35,467	306	14	664	0	984	36,451
Mar-20	111,648	515	39,207	8,232	159,602	97	6	84	0	187	159,789
Apr-20	27,867	497	12,165	6,231	46,760	0	0	0	0	0	46,760
May-20	11,255	4,699	4,613	10,598	31,165	0	0	0	0	0	31,165
Jun-20	16,700	11,474	3,215	24,018	55,407	6	32	0	0	38	55,445
Jul-20	25,031	13,267	6,388	18,228	62,914	4	29	30	29	92	63,006
Aug-20	25,871	15,146	8,104	18,462	67,583	14	20	1,107	0	1,141	68,724
Sep-20	41,145	24,850	10,736	27,240	103,971	19	75	1,678	183	1,955	105,926
Oct-20	48,812	23,142	14,603	18,174	104,731	150	78	304	4	536	105,267
Nov-20	38,925	19,334	19,771	17,459	95,489	119	75	349	63	606	96,095
Dec-20	25,300	15,594	13,724	13,297	67,915	22	73	355	50	500	68,415
<b>Total</b>	<b>389,706</b>	<b>139,191</b>	<b>144,607</b>	<b>185,588</b>	<b>859,092</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>5,016</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>6,701</b>	<b>865,793</b>

**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		
Jan-20	181	1,247	32	1,108	2,568	203	13	405	0	621	3,189
Feb-20	232	2,818	90	1,354	4,494	306	13	549	0	868	5,362
Mar-20	4,760	206	1,935	1,642	8,543	97	3	73	0	173	8,716
Apr-20	5,094	61	4,332	2,736	12,223	0	0	0	0	0	12,223
May-20	1,348	1,614	1,172	6,151	10,285	0	0	0	0	0	10,285
Jun-20	957	2,766	829	6,989	11,541	6	18	0	0	24	11,565
Jul-20	779	829	441	1,892	3,941	4	17	0	24	45	3,986
Aug-20	875	1,497	205	2,275	4,852	14	13	912	0	939	5,791
Sep-20	849	2,442	126	2,812	6,229	19	45	1,560	27	1,651	7,880
Oct-21	366	2,211	192	2,770	5,539	150	67	285	0	502	6,041
Nov-21	360	1,736	242	2,680	5,018	119	67	339	42	567	5,585
Dec-20	249	1,591	243	1,757	3,840	22	59	343	42	466	4,306
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,050</b>	<b>19,018</b>	<b>9,839</b>	<b>34,166</b>	<b>79,073</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>4,466</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>5,856</b>	<b>84,929</b>



IOM Afghanistan wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to the below donors whose support has allowed IOM to assist a total of 84,929 undocumented Afghan returnees in 2020



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

