

AFGHANISTAN

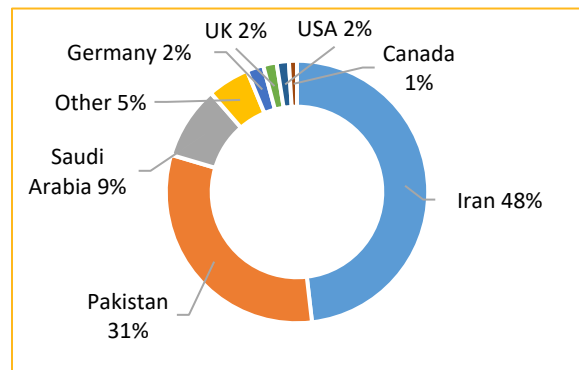


Children live in an IDP informal settlement in Herat Province, Afghanistan. © Photo: Amanda Nero/IOM

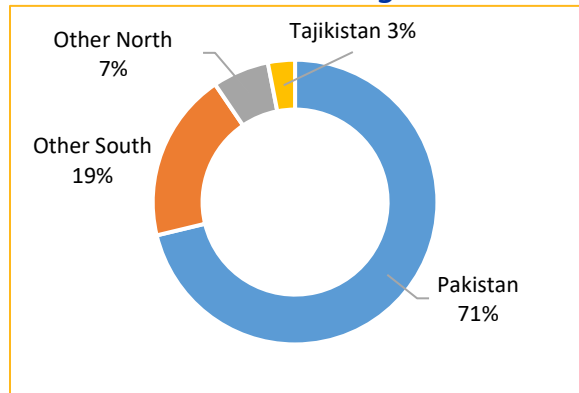
Socio-economic outlook 2017 ⁴⁶

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Population | 35,530,080 (48.5% women) |
| Immigrant population | 133,612 (50.1% women) |
| Emigrant population | 4,826,464 (47.3% women) |
| Migrant population ⁴⁷ | 4,960,076 (47.4% women) |
| Migrant population % of total population | 14% |
| Net international migration (2007 – 2012) | -299,999 |
| GDP per capita | USD 586 (current) |
| Remittances received as share of GDP | 1.82% |

Main countries of destination (2017)



Main countries of origin (2017)

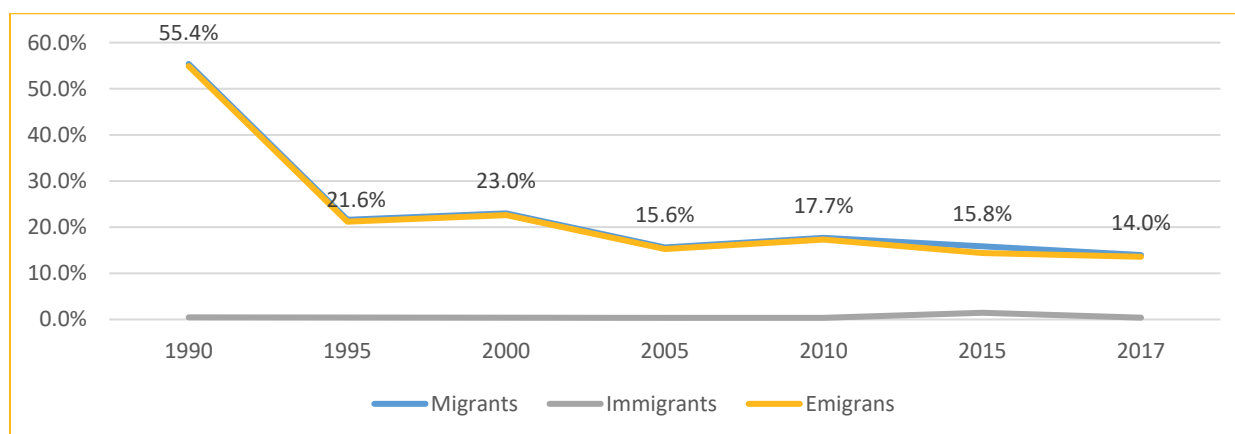


⁴⁶ All data is from UNDESA (2017). International Migrant Stock: The 2017 Revision, except from data in rows 4 to 6 of the table which is from the World Bank Indicators (2018).

⁴⁷ Migrant population = immigrant + emigrant population.



International migrants as a share of the total population



Migration

In Afghanistan, the share of international emigrants as portion of the total Afghan population more than halved between 1990 and 1995 from 55% to 21% respectively. During the following 20 years this share kept diminishing until 2017 when it hit 14%. This trend is can be partially explained by the high number of Afghan returnees who came back to their homeland after being previously displaced, particularly from Pakistan. Similarly to the other Southwest Asian countries, women represent the minority of the international migrant stock (47.4%). Afghanistan has a negative net migration rate, and the country is primarily a source of international migrants. Iran (48%) and Pakistan (31%) are the main countries of destination. Pakistan (71%) is also the main origin country of the immigrant population residing in Afghanistan (UNDESA, 2017). Remittances are a relatively important factor for the country's economy and they represent about 1.8% of the Afghan GDP (World Bank, 2018).

Identity and document fraud

In Afghanistan, between October 2017 and June 2018, 76% of the 351 travel documents and bearers inspected by the Verifier TD&B were found to be travelling regularly, while 24% were attempting to do so irregularly. Most fraud cases were related to the use of fraudulent documents (86%), while a minority were linked to the use of genuine documents by a different person from the legitimate owner (the imposter method) (14%, n=12). Most travelers involved in fraud cases at borders were women (69%, n=29). Between January and June 2018, 9 different nationalities of fraudulent travel documents were checked at Afghan borders. Most fraudulent documents came from Ukraine (35%, n=6).⁴⁸

Genuine and total fraud cases (Oct. 2017 – June 2018)



Genuine: 76%



Fraudulent: 24%

⁴⁸ The data presented in this section has been collected with the Verifier TD&B, a system developed by IOM in 2014, designed for secondary inspections of travel documents, in particular e-Passports.



Fraudulent documents and imposter cases relative to total fraud cases (Oct. 2017 – June 2018)



Imposter: 14%



Fraud: 86%

Gender distribution of total fraud cases (Oct. 2017 – June 2018)



69%



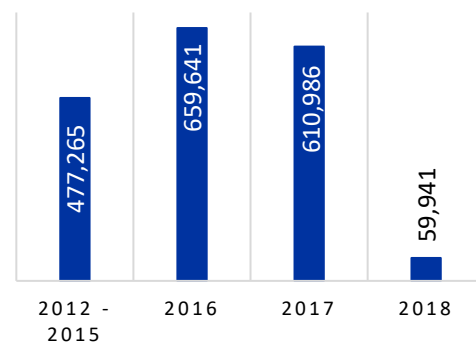
31%

Internal displacement

It is estimated that over the last forty years 25% of the Afghan population, or one in four Afghans, have been displaced, either internally or externally, by war or its socio-economic consequences.⁴⁹ According to the DTM mobility assessment launched in December 2017, over 1.7 million people were internally displaced in 15 different provinces in Afghanistan between 2012 and 2017.⁵⁰ This number rose even further, peaking at 1.8 million, as of 31 March 2018. 84% of the IDP population living in the 15 provinces assessed by IOM were displaced by conflict, while the remaining 16% moved because of natural disasters. As of March 2018, most IDPs went to Herat (536,163), followed by Nangarhar (319,024), Kandahar (181,511), and Kabul (149,443). 115,676 arrival IDPs were recorded in the first three months of 2018. The fourth

Mobility assessment round indicates that as of 31 March 2018, 1,503,807 IDPs were still displaced in the assessed provinces, and were unable or unwilling to return to their place of usual residence. Most of them lived in Nangarhar (271,093), Farah (206,365), and Kandahar (196,266).^{d 51}

IDPs annual trends (March 2018)



Cross-border mobility

With almost 80% of the Afghan emigrant population living in Pakistan and Iran, and 71% of the immigrant population in Afghanistan coming from Pakistan, cross border mobility is the most important form of international migration in the Afghan context (UNDESA, 2017). In 2016 alone, more than one million Afghans returned to Afghanistan. Most of those returning have lived outside Afghanistan for decades. They need support from the government and humanitarian actors both on arrival and as they seek to reintegrate. Four flow monitoring points at the borders with Iran and Pakistan were established by IOM. Then recorded the arrival of over 610,000 returnees

⁴⁹ IOM-UNHCR (2017). RETURNS TO AFGHANISTAN IN 2017 Joint IOM-UNHCR Summary Report.

^d NOTE: DTM mobility assessments are collected through regular rounds of key informant focus groups and, though not statistically representative, are indicative of return and displaced population trends.

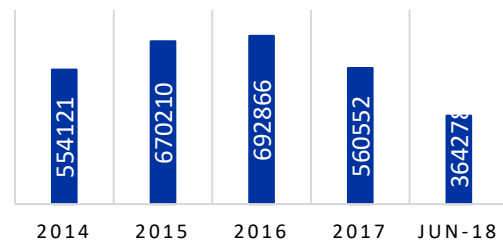
⁵⁰ International Organization for Migration (2017). Afghanistan Baseline Mobility Assessment summary Results November – December 2017.

⁵¹ International Organization for Migration (IOM) (2018). Afghanistan Baseline Mobility Assessment Summary results January – March 2018.

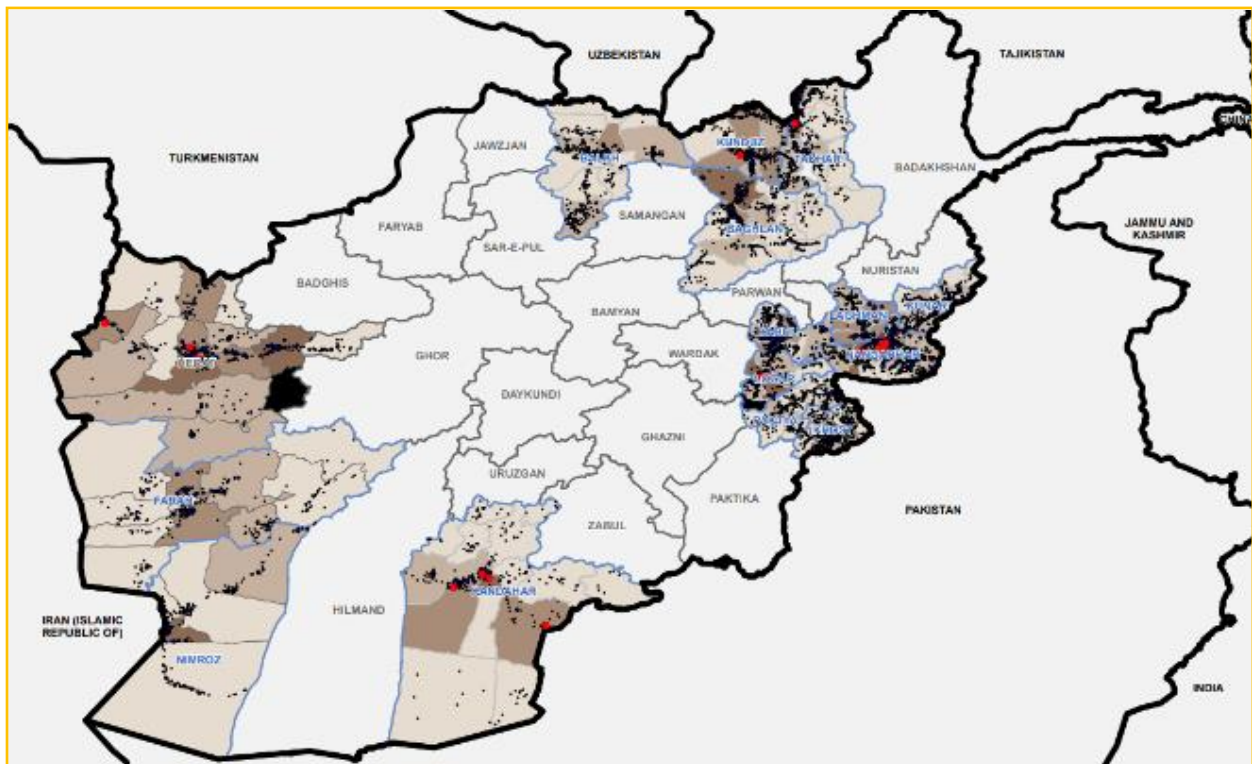


in 2017. This figure includes 160,000 returnees from Pakistan, of whom 60,000 were registered refugees and 100,000 undocumented returnees, and 450,000 undocumented returnees from the Islamic Republic of Iran. During the first six months of 2018, already 363,000 undocumented returnees returned to Afghanistan, of whom 348,506 came from Iran and 15,772 from Pakistan.^{c 52}

Undocumented returnees by year (2014 – June 2018)



Total inflow (refugees + IDPs) overview by area of destination, March 2018. (black and red dots indicate inflows, darker shades of brown indicate higher inflows of returnees and IDPs).^d



⁵² International Organization for Migration (2017). RETURNS TO AFGHANISTAN IN 2017 Joint IOM-UNHCR Summary Report. International Organization for Migration (2018). RETURN OF UNDOCUMENTED AFGHANS WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT 17 – 23 JUNE 2018.
^c NOTE: these figures only reflect the situation of undocumented afghan returnees observed at four border points: Nimroz and Herat bordering Iran, and Torkham and Spin Boldak bordering Pakistan. This data does not reflect the full picture of returns to Afghanistan.
^d International Organization for Migration (IOM) (2018). Afghanistan Baseline Mobility Assessment Summary results January – March 2018

