



A deported Afghan family from Iran is eating lunch at the IOM Transit Center in Herat

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Highlights

1,150 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

20,501 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

10,954 total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

223,442 total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018

96% of returnees from Pakistan (1,102 individuals) assisted

3% of returnees from Iran (677 individuals) assisted

95 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC) from Iran among those assisted, 0 from Pakistan

37 Medical Cases (MC) from Iran among those

Return from Pakistan

A total of **1,150** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 22—28 April 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 1,118 were spontaneous returnees and 32 were deported. This number marks a **40% increase** compared to the previous week (824). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 10,954. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **96%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (1,102 individuals), including 840 individuals in poor families, 254 individuals in single parent families and 5 special case. The assistance provided includes meals, accommodation, basic medical screening, Non-Food Items (NFIs), onward transportation cash grants and referral services, as well as support from partners.

Increased Returns from Iran

Over the past year, the Iranian currency has been devalued by 30% against the US Dollar against the threat of additional sanctions, consequently decreasing the economic opportunities for Afghans in Iran. In addition, in the first four months of 2018, over 30,000 Afghans have arrived in Eastern Turkey as a result of ongoing instability in Afghanistan. Over 7,000 have already been deported by Turkish authorities on special charter flights back to Kabul (IOM Afghanistan is not assisting this caseload and does not have information on the profile of these deportees). Anecdotal evidence collected from Afghan returnees at the Islam Qala border crossing show increasingly challenges for Afghans in Iran. The above factors are contributing to a dramatic rise in the number of returning Afghans from Iran. As of April 2018, over 220,000 Afghans have returned from Iran, this is a rise from the same period in 2017 of more than 100,000 people.

Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since 01 January 2018, over 234,396 undocumented Afghans have returned due to diverse push factors, including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan and Iran. Most 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. As the rate of return is influenced by a number of political, security and other related factors both in Afghanistan and neighboring countries, another surge in returns could occur at any time. The governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan together with UN counterparts have now extended Proof of Registration cards for 1.4m Afghan refugees in Pakistan to 30 June 2018 and have begun the issuance of Afghan Citizenship Cards on 16 February for more than 850,000 undocumented Afghans. IOM is working to scale up its support to returnees in coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and other humanitarian partners in line with the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

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Return from Iran

A total of **20,501** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 22—28 Apr 2018, **12 % more** than in the previous week. Of the total deported undocumented Afghans, 5,071 individuals were deported through Islam Qala (Herat) and 5,140 were deported through Milak (Nimroz). Of those who spontaneously returned, 8,851 returned through Islam Qala (Herat) and 1,439 through Milak (Nimroz). Out of the total deportees, 595 individuals (6%) were deported with family members whereas 9,616 (94%) were deported as individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 223,442. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **677 (3%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 348 individuals in Deported Families (DF), 95 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 34 Special Cases (SC), 90 Single Parents Family (SP), 37 Medical Cases (MC), 48 members of poor families (PF), 12 Unaccompanied Elderly (UAE), 6 Physical Disabled (PD), 6 Drug Addicted (DA), and 1 Single Female.

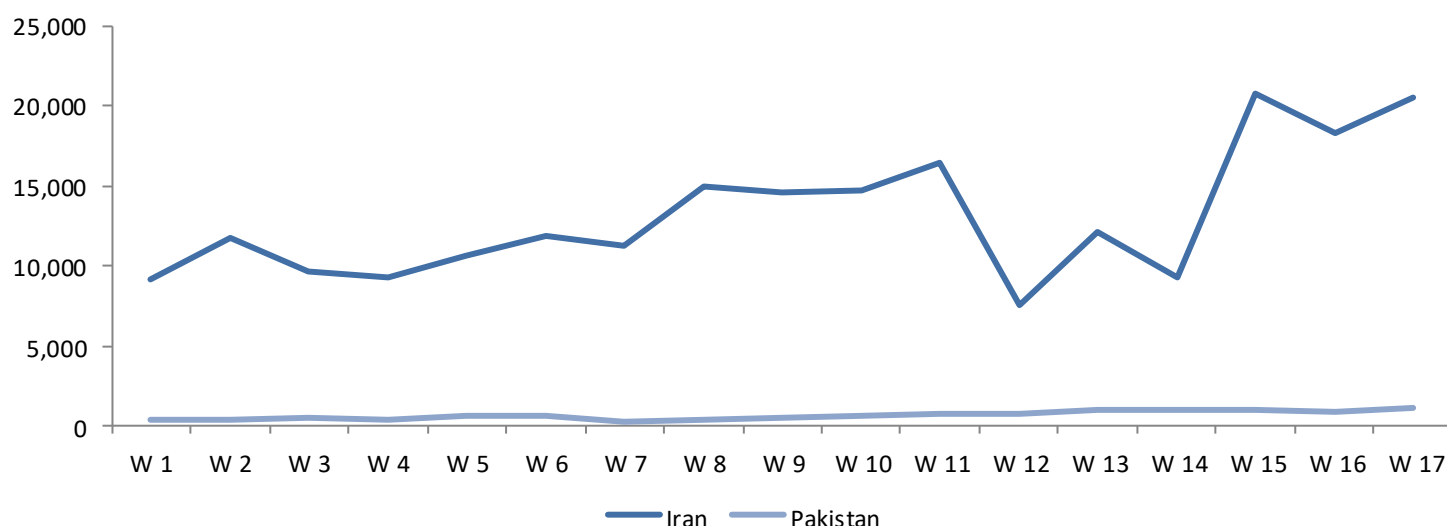
Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - Mar 18	2807	3507	49,575	16,969	292	372	26,103	62,015	6,978	154,662	161,640
01 - 14 April	1,041	906	9,544	3,897	48	7	4,995	11,588	2,002	30,024	32,026
15 - 21 April	458	361	3,674	2,092	5	0	5,879	6,610	824	18,255	19,079
22 - 28 April	600	518	8,851	1,439	23	9	5,071	5,140	1,150	20,501	21,651
Total	4,906	5,292	71,644	24,397	368	388	42,048	85,353	10,954	223,442	234,396

IOM Assisted Undocumented Afghans 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - Mar 18	2807	3327	220	182	72	43	1985	4,245	6,249	6,632	12,881
01 - 14 April	1032	843	54	39	26	0	573	675	1,901	1,341	3,242
15 - 21 April	458	333	23	11	1	0	463	387	792	884	1,676
22 - 28 April	600	494	20	61	8	0	320	276	1,102	677	1,779
Total	4,897	4,997	317	293	107	43	3,341	5,583	10,044	9,534	19,578

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 19,578 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2018, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

Migration for the benefit of all.

