

Afghanistan Flash Floods

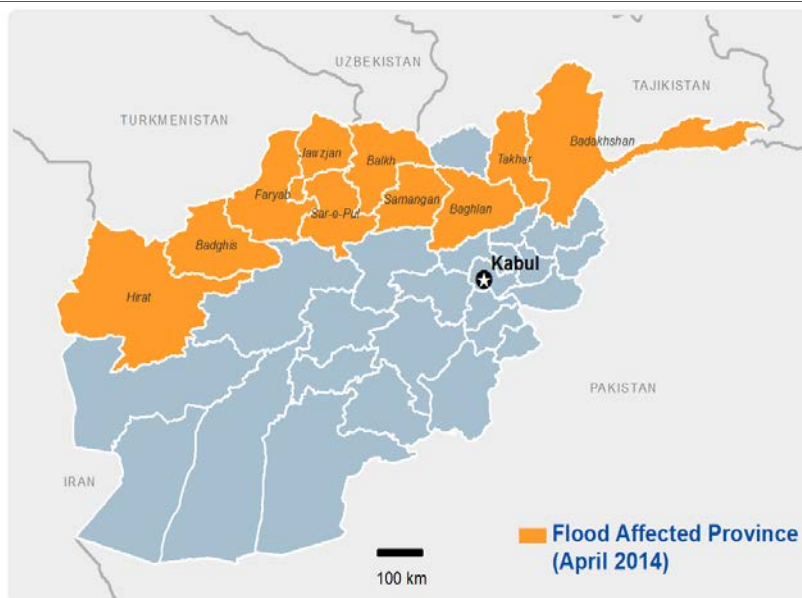
Situation Report No. 2 as of 22:00h (local time) on 28 April 2014



This report is produced by OCHA Afghanistan in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Afghanistan. It covers the period from 24 to 27 April 2014. The next report will be issued on or around 30 April 2014.

Highlights

- **10 provinces affected** by flash floods, following heavy rain on 24 April.
- **132 Afghans reported as killed** by provincial sources, these numbers remain subject to verification.
- **More than 39,000 Afghans have been affected by the floods** to date and are in need of assistance; almost 16,000 of these have been displaced.
- Across the provinces flood waters have destroyed homes, public infrastructure and roads. Thousands of hectares of agricultural land have been destroyed.
- The most recent assessments indicate **Jawzjan province as the most severely impacted** with over 27,000 people affected.
- Immediate humanitarian needs are for emergency shelter, NFIs, food and clean water.



The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Situation Overview

As at 31 March, 11 provinces (nine in northern Afghanistan) had received rainfall between 19% and 55% of their long-term average. Heavy rainfall resulting in flash floods on 24/25 April impacted 34 districts across 10 provinces of northern Afghanistan.

As more comprehensive assessments are undertaken in the districts impacted by flash floods on 25 April, a clearer picture is emerging as to the scale and severity of the humanitarian needs of affected populations. 15,988 people have been displaced by the floods across the North, North-Eastern and Western regions of the country; while some 38,955 have been heavily affected and are in need of assistance. Flood waters have damaged homes, public infrastructure, roads and thousands of hectares of agricultural land. Search and rescue operations by the Afghan National Army (ANA) are continuing, with up to 14,000 people evacuated from flooded areas to date.

In the North, Jawzjan has been the most severely affected province, with Faryab and Sar-e-Pul suffering heavy damage, and Balkh and Samangan impacted to a lesser extent. In the Western provinces of Herat and Badghis, flood waters have affected over 1,000 people and caused damage to infrastructure and agricultural land. In the North-East, the provinces of Takhar, Baghlan and Badakhshan flood waters have impacted over 70 families, affecting several villages.

On 26 April a joint assessment team consisting of IOM, OCHA, Unicef, UNHCR and WFP visited flood-affected areas of Khwajadukoh district in Jawzjan, which is believed to be the district most severely affected by the floods. Whilst affected locations are widely spread out across the district, initial planning figures estimate up to 16,000 people, (across some 21 villages), have been affected. On 27 April, a humanitarian operational centre was established in Shibirghan (Jawzjan province) to coordinate UN agency activities. The focus of the centre is on analyzing assessment findings and informing response priorities in close coordination with the Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS).

The Afghan Government's Provincial Disaster Management Committees (PDMC) are leading the coordination of the response within their affected provinces, with support from humanitarian agencies. Response is ongoing and so far in hand in 9 of the 10 provinces, response in Jawzjan continues to be ramped up. Limited access to some of the more heavily affected areas in Jawzjan remains a key challenge.

ANDMA convened on 26 April and noted that sufficient stocks were available from within Government and humanitarian system stocks to respond to the evolving situation. Afghanistan's Second Vice-President, accompanied by members of the National Disaster Management Commission, visited affected areas in Jawzjan, Faryab and Saripul provinces on 26 April, committing cash resources from the National Emergency Budget to further bolster immediate response. The OCHA Emergency Response Fund has also reserved its funds to address any potential gaps emerging.

Assessments are still underway to determine the full extent of the damage and the scale of humanitarian need. Concurrently, UN agencies, NGOs and the Red Cross movement are working in coordination with local authorities to ensure immediate delivery of emergency relief materials – emergency shelter, NFIs, tankered water, food-stuffs and medical supplies.

Whilst the immediate focus is on emergency relief, planning is also beginning to focus on post-emergency rehabilitation and recovery in Jawzjan and Saripul in particular, once the flood waters recede. Both provinces are prone to either too much water or too little with Saripul also devastated by flash floods in May 2012 and the rain-fed wheat crops in both provinces badly impacted by the drought of 2011/12 (Aggregated Land Cover Reference: <https://afg.humanitarianresponse.info/visuals/afghanistan-aggregated-land-cover-2010>).

Further details of the affected provinces are provided in the table below.

Priority	Province (Districts)	Coordination and Assessments	Damage / Needs	Humanitarian Response
Northern Region				
Highest priority Large scale damage	Jawzjan (Khwajadukoh, Darzab and Qushtepa)	<p>Khwajadukoh:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A joint assessment team consisting of IOM, OCHA, Unicef, UNHCR and WFP visited on 26 April. NGOs completed assessments of IDP locations on the left side of the highway on 26 April. ARCS undertaking assessments of 980 people affected by floods in Labe Jaril Qurais and Labe Jari Taghan villages. <p>Qushtepa and Darzab:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jawzjan PDMC on 26 April 2014 recognized flood assistance needs in Qushtepa and Darzab district and government and humanitarian teams are working on responding. According to preliminary information the flash floods have badly damaged bazaar areas, houses and agricultural land in the two districts. Priority needs include food, NFI and shelter. Relief efforts in these two districts are going to be hampered by limited humanitarian access. The ARCS plans to send volunteers to Qushtepa and Darzab districts soon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths (87): Unconfirmed reports of a further 80 people missing. Affected people: 27,188 people affected. 2,284 people displaced. Affected Populations in Khwajadukoh: 15,988 people affected. 13 villages totally affected and a further eight villages partially affected. Flood waters have also destroyed secondary and tertiary roads in Khwajadukoh district, leaving two villages completely inaccessible. Khwajadukoh district centre is severely flood-affected with district administrative buildings, bazaar areas and main commercial centres temporarily submerged in flood water. The flood waters have destroyed bridges, blocked culverts and torn down electrical pylons; even now Khwajadukoh district remains without electricity. IDPs settled on left side of highway: 14,700 people. Priority needs include food, clean drinking water, medical supplies shelter and NFIs (including clothes) particularly for IDPs with in schools or out in the open. Main roads closed; damage to infrastructure e.g. bridges. Agricultural land affected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial authorities and humanitarian organizations responding. ANA evacuations of affected population ongoing. ANA helicopters continuing to evacuate people affected by the floods, (14,000 people rescued so far). ANA engineers have repaired a key bridge leading to the district center. WFP to provide high energy biscuits as food supplement to displaced families on 28 April. IDPs settled on left side of highway: ActionAid, WHH, Kefayat company and Kamal Nabi Zada (private company) started distributions of food, bottled water and NFIs in coordination with local authorities. A beneficiary list has been prepared and humanitarian partners plan to start distribution of food and NFIs on 29 April. The ARCS will be covering the food and NFI needs of 826 IDPs. The rest of displaced people (14,700) will be assisted by WFP, IOM, Save the Children, NRC, UNICEF, Care Int, PIN, WHH and Tearfund. The ARCS mobile health team providing health services for flood affected families.
High priority Large scale damage	Faryab (Khwajasabzposh, Pashtunkot, Maymana, Shirintagab, Bilchiragh, Garziwan, Dawlatabad, Qaysar and Almar).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment completed in Khajasabzposh, Dawlatabad and Maymana city; ongoing in Shirintagab, Pashtunkot, Gurziwan and Bilchiragh districts; no assessments as yet in Almar and Qaysar districts due to security problems (referred to ICRC and ARCS). NRC assessing needs in Maimana city (518 people affected) and Pashtonkot district. NRC. The ARCS team currently assessing flood- affected people in 36 villages of Astana Baba in Shirintagab district. This team has assessed 2,660 people there. Humanitarian assistance will be delivered once the assessment is completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths (37) and missing persons (7). Affected people (7, 287) Houses destroyed (2,309) A large amount of agricultural land has reportedly been affected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Save the Children: provided 2,400 pieces bread and one water tanker for Dawlatabad district. DACAR: provided transport to deliver NFI to Khwajasabzposh and Shirintagab districts. SAF and AADA: Mobile clinics. DRR: Providing one water truck. ACTED: provided transport. UNHCR: Provided 100 tents, 500 tarpaulins and 1,000 blankets.
High priority	Sar-e-Pul (Sar-e-Pul,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment and emergency response is going on simultaneously. NRC: leading assessments in most parts of Saripul city (945 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths (10): Sozmaqala and Sancharak districts. Affected people: 5,502 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARCS mobile health team is currently providing health services for flood-affected families in the centre and Sayyad district.

Large scale damage	Sayad, Sozmaqala, Gosfandi, Balkhab, Sancharak and Kohestanat).	<p>people in need of assistance), and Charbagh village.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARCS assessed 3,255 flood-affected people and distributed NFIs to 1,015 people, food assistance to 700 people, bottles of drinking water to 3,000 people, and 10 large tents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destroyed/damaged houses: 215 destroyed; 405 damaged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IOM has provided blankets.
High priority Medium scale damage	Balkh (Sholgara and Keshendeh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The flash flood occurred in Sholgara district of Balkh province on 25 April. Following the PDMC meeting on 26 April, the joint assessment team, consisting of ANDMA, IOM, Care International, SCI and NRC, conducted the assessment on 27 April. The assessment identified 2,898 people as flood affected; the houses of all these families have been damaged by the recent flooding. Flood affected villages: Qazelkent, Tashgeldi, Naw Abad Qadim, Tabayaq Sufla, Tabayaq Olya, Kangori, Imam Abu Hanifa, Najarhai Qadim, Nawabad Poshti Bazar, Bodana Qala, Jari Haji Nazar, Nik Mohammad Qadim, Mahajir Qeshlaq, Karnai Soi, Qepchaq and Charasyab. ARCS received reports from Sadmish, (a desert area between Gosfandi district of Sari Pul province and Chemtal district of Balkh province), that area was badly affected by the flash floods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affected people: 2,898. 100 houses damaged; 10 destroyed. Sholgareh district: Based on findings of the joint assessment team (consisting of ANDMA, IOM, WFP, Save the Children, Care International and NRC), 2,898 people are affected. Keshendeh district: Agricultural land flood-affected. PIN is verifying flood damages and needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Humanitarian response: Distribution of food and NFIs to all 2,898 flood-affected people started today morning (28 April) in Sholgara district. ANDMA, WFP, IOM, SCI and Care International are the distribution team. The assessment of two remaining villages in Sholgara district is ongoing. ANDMA and Johanniter International will be providing the food and NFI for this remaining caseload.
Low priority	Samangan (Aybak)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First wave of flash flooding hit Aybak center of Samangan province on 23 April. The joint rapid assessment conducted on 24 April, consisting of ANDMA, ARCS, DAIL, DRR specialist of provincial Governors office, Women Affairs, IOM, WHH, WFP, Care International and AHEAD. Flood-affected villages in Aybak center of Samangan province included Arbabi, Khwaja Ghar, Shah Hussaini, Ainacha, Aqeb Cinema, Karte Solh (part 1 and 2), Masjid Khwaja Mohammad Wali, Sarqad, Qush Asyab and Ghaznigak. Joint needs assessment of flood-affected in Samangan province, identified 819 individuals in need of assistances and distributed NFI kits and unconditional cash (5,900 AFS). Second wave of flooding hit Aybak center of Samangan province once again on 25 April and affected some urban areas in Aybak and Ghaznigak village in Aybak center of Samangan - according to joint assessment of ARCS and ANDMA conducted on 25 April. This incident affected 77 people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the findings of the joint assessment team a total of 819 individuals are affected by the flash floods. In Aybak this incident resulted in destruction of 19 houses and damage a further 98. The second wave of flash flood on 25 April destroyed five houses and damaged six in Aybake centre of Samangan province. 	<p>Humanitarian response to flood-affected people of first wave of flooding on 23 April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARCS distributed NFIs to 133 flood-affected individuals who had lost their shelters in Aybak flooding on 24 April. WFP, IOM, NRC and Care International distributed food and NFIs for all 5,733 flood-affected individuals on 27 April. During this distribution, NRC also distributed cash assistance of 5,900 AFS per family to all 819 people. ARCS has spare stocks of NFI for 1,400 people in Aybak. <p>Humanitarian response to flood affected people of the second wave of flooding on 25 April:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ARCS will be providing NFI for the last 11 families affected by the 2nd wave of flooding on 25 April 2014.

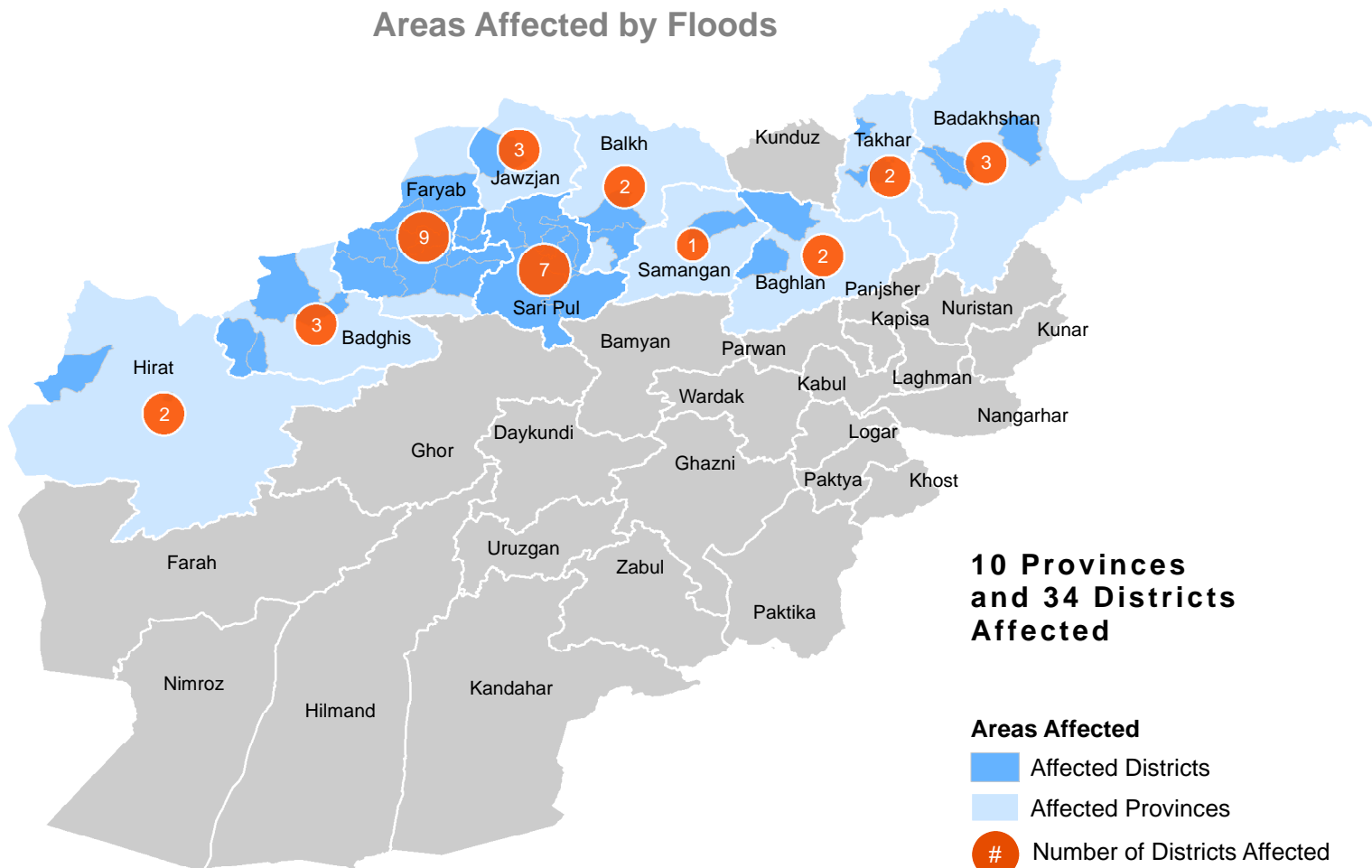
North-Eastern Region

TBC	Takhar (Dasht-e-Qala)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment team formed of ANDMA and DACAAR. According to ANDMA, the main road in Taloqan area was temporarily closed by flood debris. MRRD used heavy machinery to clear the road, which was then re-opened later in the morning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 56 people affected. 20 houses were destroyed by floods in Now-Abad village of Dasht-e-Qala district. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisted by ARCS and ANDMA with NFIs and Food.
TBC	Baghlan (Baghlan-e-Jadid and Dahana-e-Ghori)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 26 April, ANDMA, IOM, ARCS, Dept. of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (DoRRD) and Dept. of Public Works conducted an assessment in Baghlan-e-Jadid district. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 168 people affected 17 houses damaged; 7 destroyed. Baghlan-e-Jadid district: 80 houses have been damaged or are destroyed. Assessment findings pending for Dahana-e-Ghori. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARCS to assist with tents, NFIs and food.
TBC	Badakhshan (Darayem and Shohada districts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IOM, in coordination with ANDMA, undertook an assessment on 24 April. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two districts affected. Flash floods affected several villages. 50 affected families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darayem District: IOM to assist with Shelter and Revitalization Kits; DAIL possibly with food. Shohada District: Assessment and response still to be finalized.

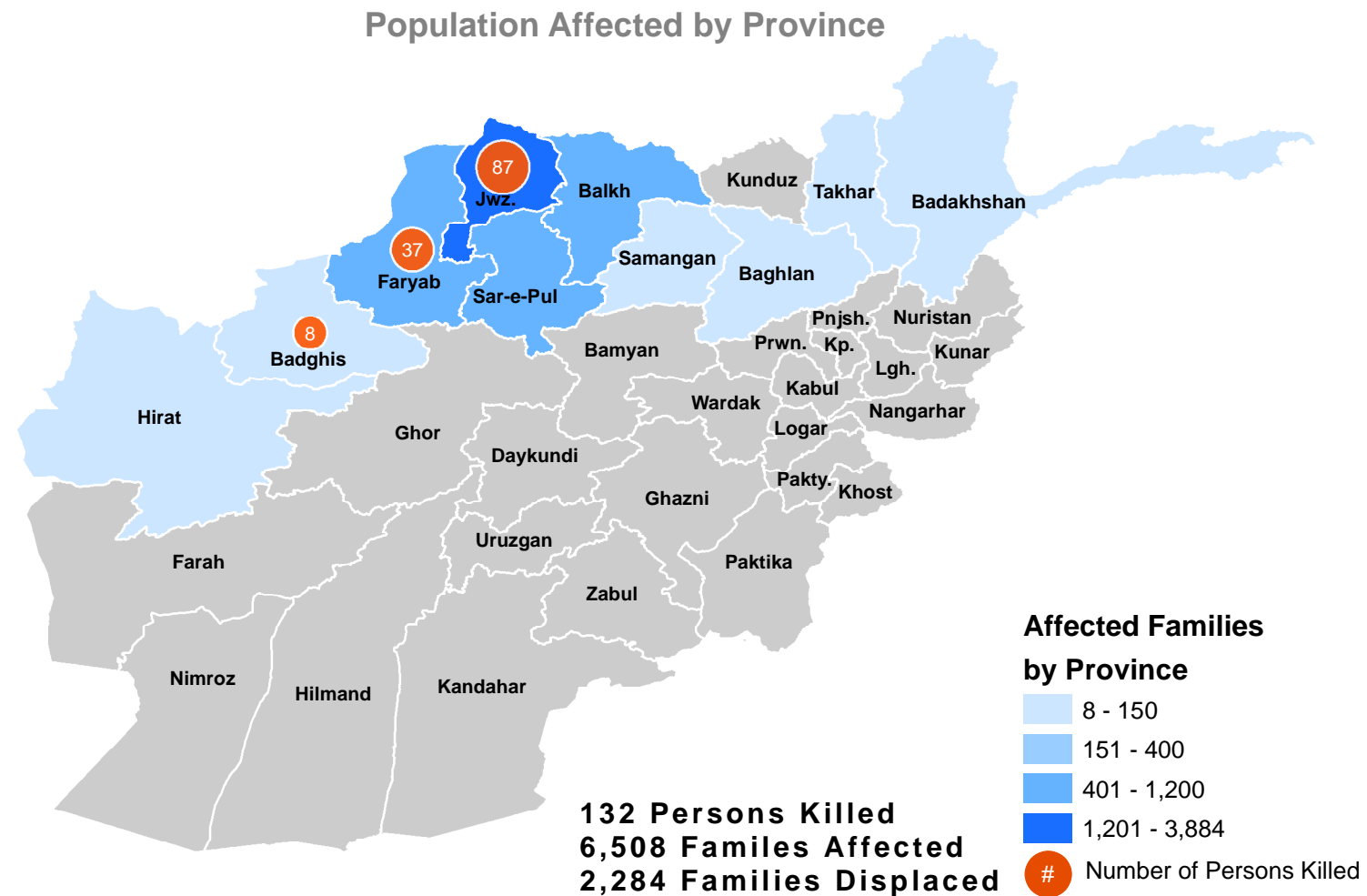
Western Region

TBC	Herat (Herat City and Kohsan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANDMA, IOM, NRC and WFP conducted a joint assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People affected (301) 35 houses damage; 8 destroyed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IOM provided one blanket module and one family module to each family. While WFP and NRC will provide food and shelter assistance on 27 April. ARCS will also assist in Islam Qala. ANDMA requested WFP food distributions in Herat City. ARCS provided food and NFIs in Kohsan.
TBC	Badghis (Qala-I-Naw, Ab Kamari, Bala Murghab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint assessment conducted by ARCS, IRC, ANDMA and WFP Assessments pending in Ab Kamari due to insecurity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths (15) People affected (987) 10 homes damaged, 41 destroyed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qala-I-Naw. - ANDMA, DoRR ARCS, ARAA, WFP/PAT and IRC undertook a joint assessment. ARCS and IRC will provide NFI and emergency shelter. WFP planning to distribute food.

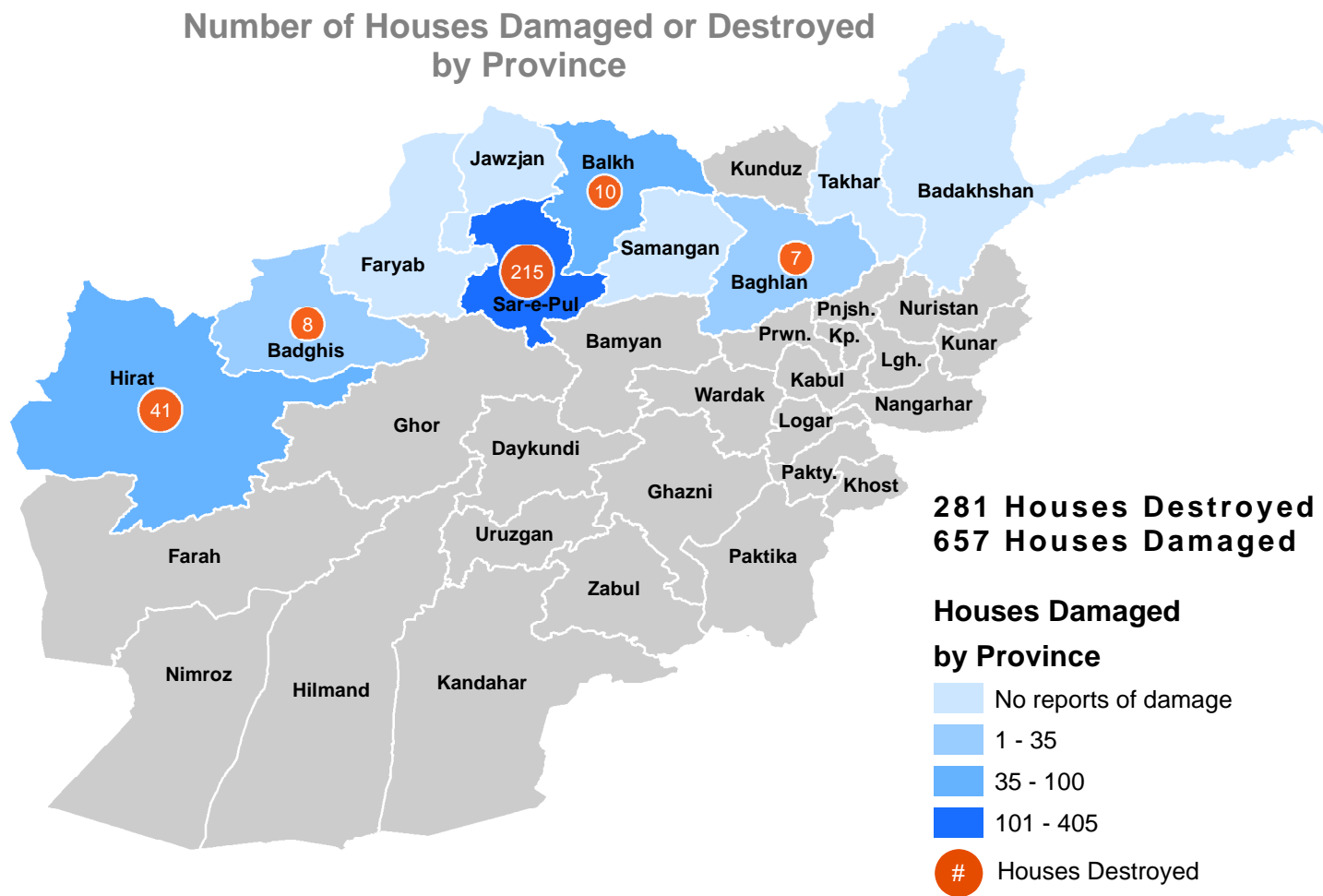
Areas Affected by Floods



Population Affected by Province



Number of Houses Damaged or Destroyed by Province



Number of Families Affected by Province

Jawzjan	3,884
Faryab	1,041
Sar-e-Pul	786
Balkh	414
Badghis	141
Samangan	117
Badakhshan	50
Hirat	43
Baghlan	24
Takhar	8

Notes:

The information represented on the map is based on reports of OCHA field offices, IOM and PDMC meetings.

These figures may fluctuate as the number of affected Afghans, people killed and injured, and houses damaged or destroyed are based on a combination of verified and non-verified reports received. Hence, these figures may change as updates are received.

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Date Printed: 28 April 2014 07:57 PM

Data Source(s):
AGCHO
Natural disaster information: OCHA Field Offices and IOM

Projection/Datum: Geographic/WGS-84

Disclaimers:
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Feedback: ocha.imu.afg@gmail.com
Website: <http://afg.humanitarianresponse.info>

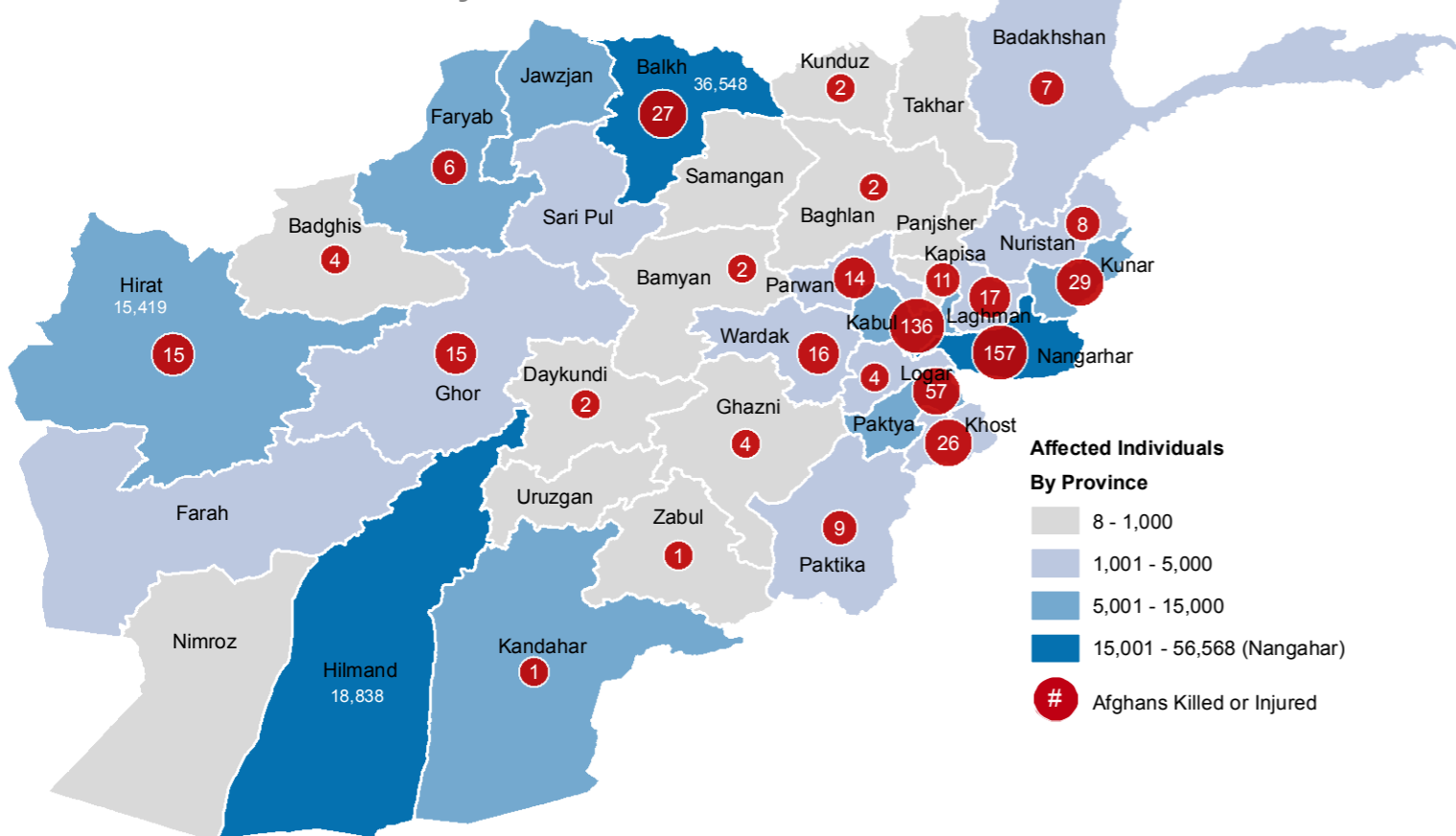
AFGHANISTAN: Overview of Natural Disasters

Natural disaster incidents as recorded by OCHA Field Offices and IOM from 1 January to 31 December 2013

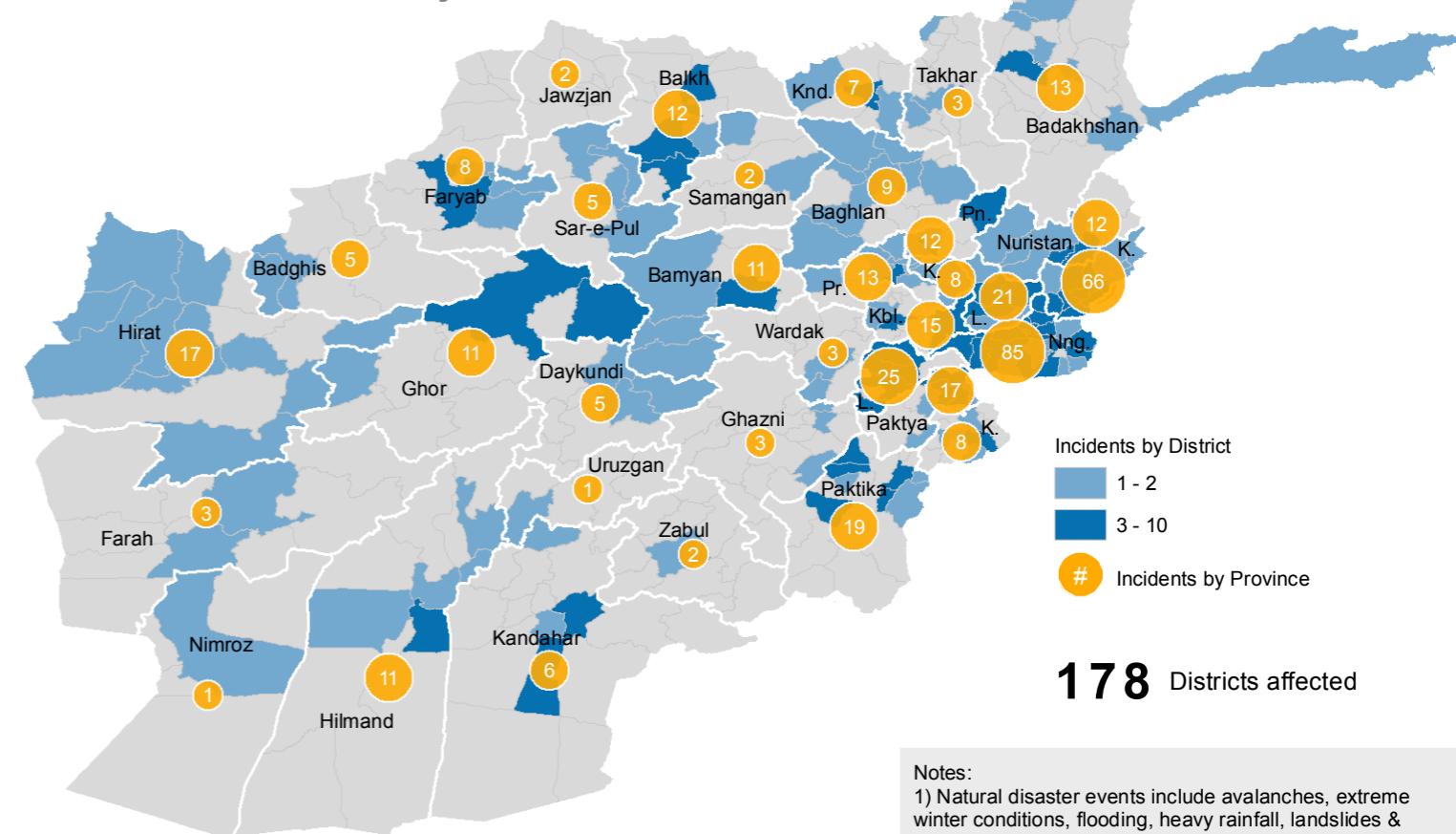


OCHA

Number of Individuals Affected by Natural Disasters

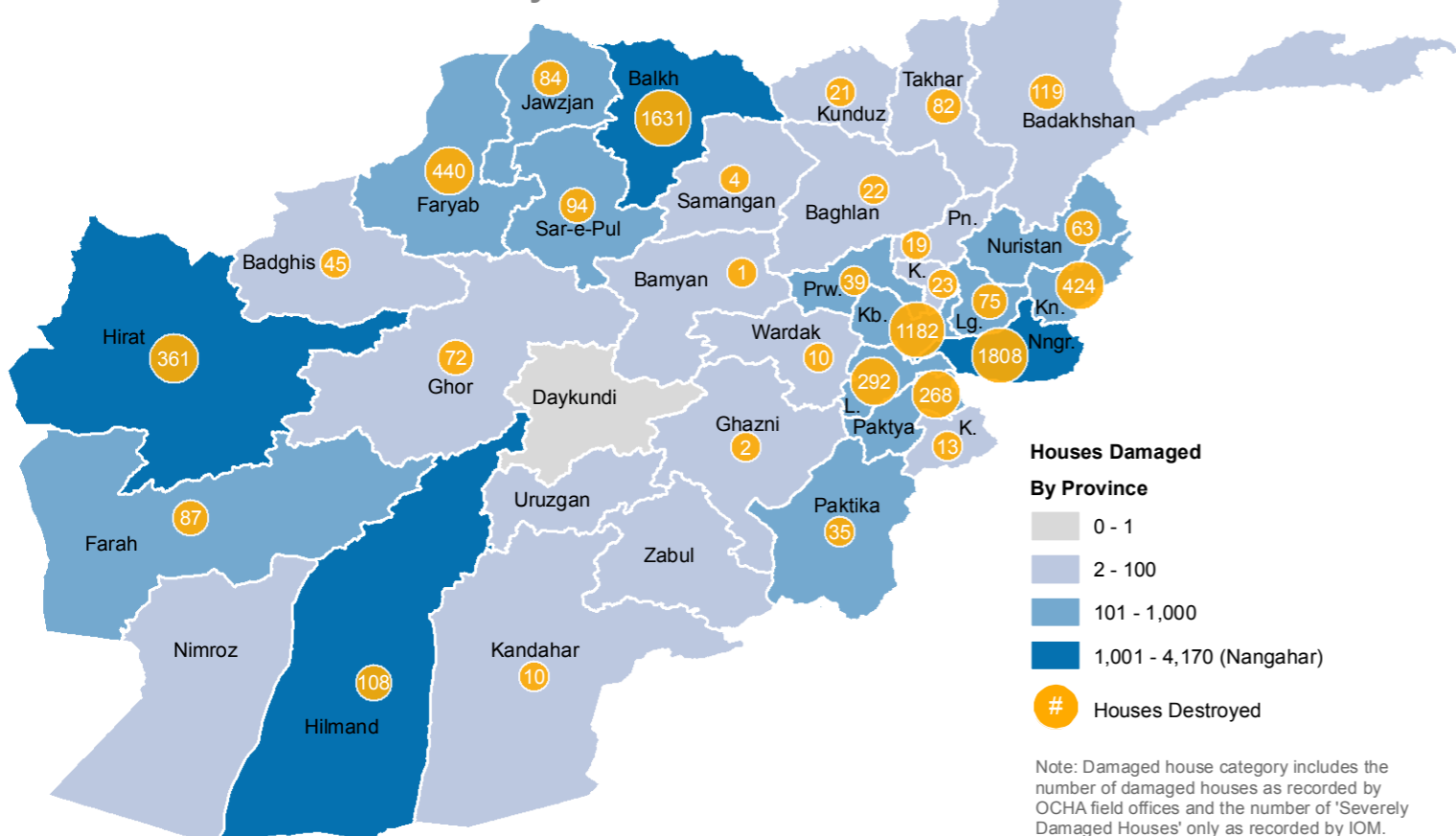


Number of Natural Disaster Incidents by District and Province



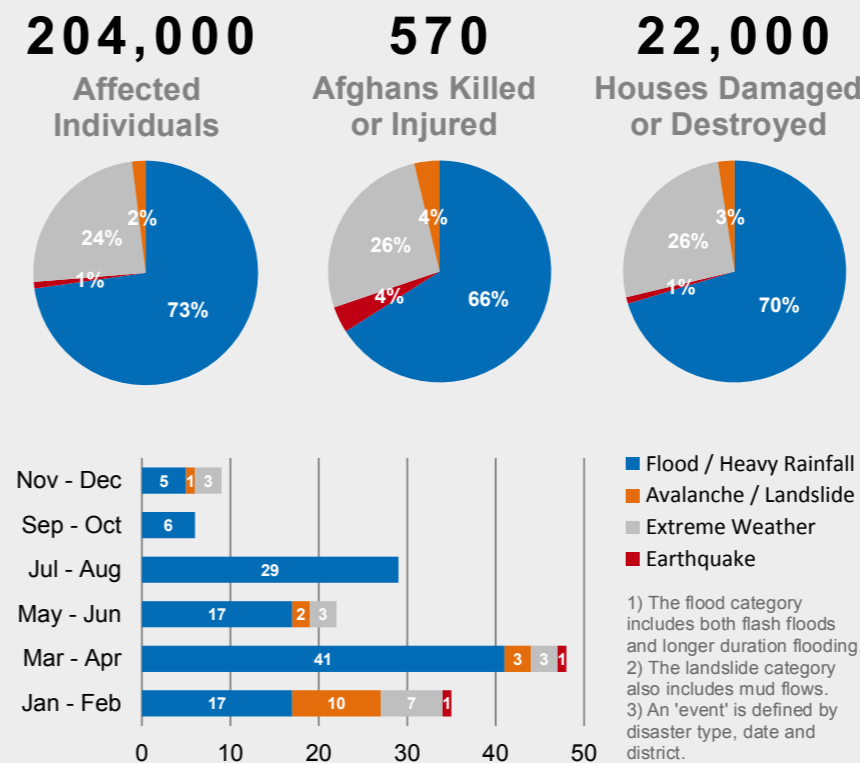
178 Districts affected

Number of Houses Damaged or Destroyed by Province



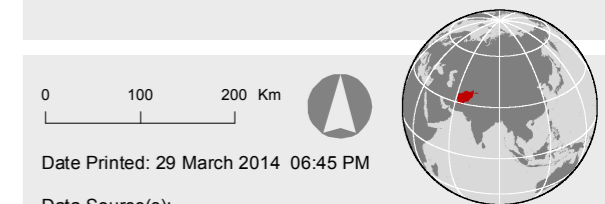
Note: Damaged house category includes the number of damaged houses as recorded by OCHA field offices and the number of 'Severely Damaged Houses' only as recorded by IOM.

Summary of Natural Disaster Events in 2013 (January to December) by Type



Notes:

- 1) Natural disaster events include avalanches, extreme winter conditions, flooding, heavy rainfall, landslides & mudflows, and extreme weather (sandstorms, hail, wind, etc) as recorded by OCHA field offices and IOM Afghanistan Humanitarian Assistance Database (HADB).
- 2) A natural disaster incident is defined as an event that has affected (i.e. impacted) Afghans, who may or may not require humanitarian assistance.
- 3) HADB information is used as a main reference and supplemented by OCHA Field Office reports for those incidents where information is not available from the HADB. OCHA information includes assessment figures from OCHA, ANDMA, Red Crescent Societies, national NGOs, international NGOs, and ERM.
- 4) These figures may fluctuate since the number of affected Afghans, people killed and injured, and houses damaged or destroyed are based on a combination of verified and non-verified reports received. Hence, these figures may change as updates are received.



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Feedback: ocha.imu.afg@gmail.com
 Website: http://afg.humanitarianresponse.info

Background on the crisis

Afghanistan is extremely susceptible to recurring natural disasters, due to its geographical location and years of environmental degradation. The country regularly experiences flooding, earthquakes, avalanches, landslides and drought, in addition to other man-made disasters resulting in the frequent loss of lives, livelihoods and property; contributing to high levels of poverty across the country. The Northern provinces of Afghanistan can be severely affected by both floods and drought. Seasonal rains and spring snow melt regularly result in life-threatening flash flooding in the region. The Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), supported by the international humanitarian community, has prepared contingency plans for the spring floods as well as a number of early warning systems. ANDMA has also been working to construct flood protection systems in flash flood prone communities.

For further information, please contact:

Aidan O'Leary, OCHA Head of Office, oleary@un.org, cell +93 79 300 1101

For more information, please visit <http://afg.humanitarianresponse.info> | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int