



Returnee families receive Food and Non-Food Items from IOM and partner agencies at IOM's Kandahar Transit Centre © Saburi / IOM Afghanistan

Highlights

805,850 total returns from Iran and Pakistan between 01 Jan—31 Dec 2018

773,125 total returns from Iran between 01 Jan—31 Dec 2018

32,725 total returns from Pakistan between 01 Jan—31 Dec 2018

5,721 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran between 01—05 Jan 2019

425 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan between 01—05 Jan 2019

4% of returnees from Iran (226 individuals) assisted

84% of returnees from Pakistan (357 individuals) assisted

Return from Iran

A total of **9,956** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 30 Dec 2018 - 05 Jan 2019, **4% less** than in the previous week (10,371). 5,721 returned between 01—05 Jan 2019. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 778,846.

IOM assisted 553 (6%) of undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat between 30 December 2018—05 January 2019, 226 of which were assisted between 01-05 January 2019.

Protection Assistance for Returnees

The protection unit assessed a total of 83 PSN cases in Herat, Faryab, Sare Pul, Takhar, Kunduz, and Kandahar provinces. Of the total assessed cases, 41 were unaccompanied migrant children (UMC), 11 female heads of households (FHH) and 31 medical cases (MC).

Furthermore, 138 cases were assisted (53 female heads of households, 69 unaccompanied migrant children, 14 medical cases and 2 single females in Faryab, Kandahar and Sare Pul provinces).

The assistance included food, non-food items and dignity kits.

Situation Overview

Since 01 January 2018, IOM is responding to the return of over 800,000 undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Undocumented returns from Iran in particular are seeing a massive increase of more than 200,000 to over 460,000 total between January-July 2018 versus 187,000 during the same time period in 2017, largely driven by recent political and economic issues in Iran including massive currency devaluation. As Afghans primarily work in the informal economy in Iran the demand for this type of work is drastically reduced. Further as all Afghans typically send home their earnings in the form of monthly remittances, the Afghan economy itself, already evident in the drought affected provinces of Herat, Badghis and Ghor, is suffering direct and immediate effects.

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Return from Pakistan

A total of **667** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 30 Dec 2018—05 Jan 2019, 425 of which returned between 01-05 January 2019, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 597 were spontaneous returnees and 70 were deported. This number marks an **54% increase** compared to the previous week (434).

Number of Undocumented Returnees vs. Assisted by IOM 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Overall Return - 2018				Total Return	Overall Assisted by IOM - 2018				Total Assisted	% Assisted
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz		Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz		
Jan-18	944	937	27,011	20,255	49,147	795	870	445	1,566	3,676	7%
Feb-18	702	1,005	22,323	30,434	54,464	663	761	544	1,617	3,585	7%
Mar-18	1,453	1,937	26,344	28,295	58,029	1,421	1,739	1,216	1,244	5,620	10%
Apr-18	2,492	1,900	39,596	33,632	77,620	2,442	1,769	1,608	1,611	7,430	10%
May-18	2,273	1,393	42,144	35,466	81,276	2,228	1,230	1,887	1,786	7,131	9%
Jun-18	1,051	920	31,613	19,773	53,357	952	821	630	1,072	3,475	7%
Jul-18	1,745	1,549	41,470	30,585	75,349	1,070	310	868	711	2,959	4%
Aug-18	1,276	1,069	52,020	22,940	77,305	1,025	921	1,351	1,021	4,318	6%
Sep-18	1,637	1,705	43,910	28,722	75,974	1,211	1,502	849	1,073	4,635	6%
Oct-18	1,115	1,262	38,932	31,923	73,232	1,024	1,086	869	1,065	4,044	6%
Nov-18	826	1,426	29,750	43,480	75,482	712	1,215	1,122	1,260	4,309	6%
Dec-18	471	1,634	26,142	26,365	54,612	360	1,501	1,799	1,851	5,511	10%
Total	15,985	16,737	421,255	351,870	805,850	13,903	13,725	13,188	15,877	56,693	7%

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

Persons in Specific Needs (PSNs) Categories	Herat	Nimroz	Nangarhar	Kandahar	Total PSNs
UMC: Unaccompanied Migrant Children	1,766	2,170	6	63	4005
MC: Medical Cases	1,036	1,529	0	0	2,565
DA: Drug Addicts	165	29	0	0	194
UE: Unaccompanied Elderly	246	264	0	1	511
SC: Special Cases	1,108	1,548	243	227	3,126
PD: Physically Disabled	125	223	0	0	348
SF: Single Females	101	20	0	0	121
CI: Chronically Ill	5	26	0	0	31
MI: Mentally Ill or Severely Traumatized	15	14	3	0	32
SP: Single Parents	1,376	480	4,025	4,305	10,186
PF: Poor Families	336	750	9,621	9,129	19,836
DF: Deported Families	6,909	8,824	5	0	15,738

IOM Assisted Undocumented Afghans 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	782	13%
Total	40	385	3,267	2,454	6,146	40	317	81	145	782	0

IOM Afghanistan has assisted a total of 56,693 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan in 2018 and 782 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2019, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

