

# **BASELINE MOBILITY** ASSESSMENT

**SUMMARY RESULTS** ROUND 11 • JUL-DEC 2020



A lack of economic and educational opportunities have led children to engage in hard labour, like these children in Bamyan. © IOM 2020

## **ABOUT DTM**

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system that tracks and monitors displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route.

DTM implements the Baseline Mobility Assessment in Afghanistan to track mobility, provide information on population estimates, locations and geographic distribution of displaced, return and migrant populations, reasons for displacement, places of origin, and times of displacement, including demographics, vulnerabilities and multi-sectoral needs. Data is collected at the settlement level, through community focus group discussions with key informants and direct observations.

DTM enables IOM and its partners to maximize resources, set priorities, and deliver better-targeted, evidence-based, mobilitysensitive and sustainable humanitarian assistance and development programming. For more information about DTM in Afghanistan, please visit www.displacement.iom.int-afghanistan.

## **5 TARGET POPULATIONS**

Through the Baseline Mobility Assessments, DTM tracks the locations, population sizes, and cross-sectoral needs of five core target population categories:

### Returnees from Abroad

Afghans who had fled abroad for at least 6 months and have now returned to Afghanistan

#### **Out-Migrants**

Afghans who moved or fled abroad

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), subdivided into the following three categories:

### Fled IDPs

Afghans from an assessed village who fled as IDPs to reside elsewhere in Afghanistan

IDPs from other locations currently residing in an assessed village

Afghans from an assessed village who had fled as IDPs in the past and have now returned home

Data on population sizes for the 5 target population categories is collected by time of displacement, using each of the following time frames: 2012-2015 • 2016 • 2017 • 2018. • 2019 • 2020

# HIGHLIGHTS



**34** provinces covered

**40** I districts assessed

12,600 settlements assessed



72,305

key informants interviewed



4,196,878

returnees from abroad [2012-2020]



4,937,277

IDPs [2012–2020] currently in host communities



5,766,941

former IDPs have returned to their homes [2012–2020]



3,022,889

out-migrants fled abroad [2012-2020]



out-migrants fled to Europe (13% of out-migrants)



284,643

returnees and IDPs (3%) live in tents or in the open air



63% of IDPs reside in 8 provinces: Badghis, Balkh, Helmand, Herat, Kabul, Kandahar, Nangarhar & Zabul



I in 2

49% of returnees reside in 8 provinces: Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Herat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kunduz & Nangarhar



I in 3

persons in Farah, Helmand, Herat, Jawzjan, Kunar, Logar & Nangarhar and over 40% in Badghis, Nimroz & Zabul are either an IDP or returnee



persons in Badghis, Uruzgan & Wardak and 50% in Farah & Zabul have fled their homes as IDPs



former IDPs from Baghlan, Helmand, Kunduz, Takhar & Zabul have returned home









### Displaced Individuals in all 5 Target Populations | Summary Overview by Province

	Date Last	*Base	Total Inflow (Returnees +	% of		% of		% of	Arrival	% of	Returned	% of	Out	% of
Province	Assessed	Population	Arrival IDPs)	Pop.	Returnees	Pop.	Fled IDPs	Pop.	IDPs	Pop.	IDPs	Pop.	Migrants	Pop.
Badakhshan	31/Dec/20	1,017,499	176,269	15%	98,144	8%	195,265	19%	78,125	7%	162,313	16%	106,277	10%
Badghis	31/Dec/20	530,574	374,926	41%	128,971	14%	222,073	42%	245,955	27%	124,436	23%	128,006	24%
Baghlan	31/Dec/20	977,297	227,550	19%	176,522	15%	167,491	17%	51,028	4%	556,124	57%	141,030	14%
Balkh	31/Dec/20	1,442,847	549,857	28%	189,820	10%	216,002	15%	360,037	18%	66,631	5%	204,734	14%
Bamyan	31/Dec/20	478,424	73,823	13%	36,275	7%	107,424	22%	37,548	7%	66,600	14%	35,950	8%
Daykundi	31/Dec/20	498,840	55,008	10%	39,095	7%	45,609	9%	15,913	3%	23,362	5%	70,881	14%
Farah	31/Dec/20	543,237	232,390	30%	85,966	11%	285,191	52%	146,424	19%	142,028	26%	101,977	19%
Faryab	31/Dec/20	1,069,540	325,114	23%	251,825	18%	291,024	27%	73,289	5%	106,026	10%	309,131	29%
Ghazni	31/Dec/20	1,315,041	245,459	16%	65,921	4%	125,662	10%	179,538	12%	117,656	9%	58,731	4%
Ghor	31/Dec/20	738,224	136,398	16%	52,002	6%	92,951	13%	84,396	10%	45,918	6%	57,131	8%
Helmand	31/Dec/20	1,395,514	589,500	30%	145,441	7%	423,107	30%	444,059	22%	640,489	46%	65,963	5%
Herat	31/Dec/20	2,050,514	1,173,788	36%	218,910	7%	260,425	13%	954,878	30%	122,736	6%	241,323	12%
Jawzjan	31/Dec/20	579,833	327,923	36%	182,658	20%	147,139	25%	145,265	16%	185,743	32%	210,121	36%
Kabul	31/Dec/20	4,860,880	639,223	12%	282,856	5%	107,173	2%	356,367	6%	58,295	1%	99,523	2%
Kandahar	31/Dec/20	1,337,183	367,355	22%	98,299	6%	365,795	27%	269,056	16%	131,896	10%	23,256	2%
Kapisa	31/Dec/20	471,574	107,512	19%	45,068	8%	94,811	20%	62,444	11%	45,964	10%	54,764	12%
Khost	31/Dec/20	614,584	154,977	20%	82,828	11%	37,389	6%	72,149	9%	6,974	1%	29,930	5%
Kunar	31/Dec/20	482,115	206,778	30%	104,948	15%	104,204	22%	101,830	15%	68,049	14%	15,990	3%
Kunduz	31/Dec/20	1,091,116	298,450	21%	211,794	15%	174,049	16%	86,656	6%	1,364,769	125%	165,342	15%
Laghman	31/Dec/20	476,537	174,776	27%	124,149	19%	108,318	23%	50,627	8%	14,436	3%	36,637	8%
Logar	31/Dec/20	419,377	199,111	32%	171,747	28%	128,903	31%	27,364	4%	15,149	4%	77,731	19%
Nangarhar	31/Dec/20	1,635,872	880,817	35%	558,361	22%	286,861	18%	322,456	13%	446,677	27%	59,970	4%
Nimroz	31/Dec/20	176,898	135,678	43%	53,644	17%	20,248	11%	82,034	26%	23,578	13%	37,686	21%
Nuristan	31/Dec/20	158,211	5,278	3%	0	0%	16,699	11%	5,278	3%	1,162	1%	79	0%
Paktika	31/Dec/20	748,910	105,885	12%	54,355	6%	37,976	5%	51,530	6%	24,437	3%	38,293	5%
Paktya	31/Dec/20	590,668	118,042	17%	78,835	11%	69,838	12%	39,207	6%	87,480	15%	26,287	4%
Panjsher	31/Dec/20	164,115	5,454	3%	1,741	1%	1,680	1%	3,713	2%	4,191	3%	4,600	3%
Parwan	31/Dec/20	711,621	117,020	14%	71,523	9%	98,422	14%	45,497	5%	70,718	10%	70,473	10%
Samangan	31/Dec/20	415,343	80,985	16%	41,541	8%	106,489	26%	39,444	8%	68,895	17%	43,098	10%
Sar-e-Pul	31/Dec/20	599,137	221,222	27%	112,971	14%	118,974	20%	108,251	13%	88,928	15%	123,479	21%
Takhar	31/Dec/20	1,053,852	247,059	19%	162,380	12%	136,736	13%	84,679	7%	562,609	53%	197,133	19%
Uruzgan	31/Dec/20	420,964	84,788	17%	3,041	1%	168,802	40%	81,747	16%	114,504	27%	1,843	0%
Wardak	31/Dec/20	637,634	181,021	22%	130,863	16%	263,417	41%	50,158	6%	31,657	5%	71,119	11%
Zabul	31/Dec/20	371,043	314,719	46%	134,384	20%	199,429	54%	180,335	26%	176,511	48%	114,401	31%
Total		30,075,018	9,134,155	23%	4,196,878	11%	5,225,576	17%	4,937,277	13%	5,766,941	19%	3,022,889	10%

<sup>\*</sup> Base Population source: NSIA Population Estimates for 1397 (2018 to 2019) Symbology: target population ≥ 200,000 % of base population ≥ 25%





The overall objective of DTM's Baseline Mobility Assessment in Afghanistan is to track mobility and displacement, provide population estimates, locations and geographic distribution of displaced, return and migrant populations, as well as refugees, nomads, cross-border tribal groups, and both domestic and international labour migrants. DTM captures additional mobility information, including reasons for displacement and return, places of origin and destination, times of displacement and return, secondary displacements, and population demographics, vulnerabilities and multi-sectoral needs.

DTM predominantly employs enumerators who originate from the areas of assessment. Enumerators collect quantitative data at the settlement level, through focus group discussions with key informants (KIs). Through direct observations, enumerators also collect qualitative data on living conditions, basic services, and security and socio-economic situation.

Due to security risks, enumerators cannot carry smart-phones or tablets in the field, therefore they collect data, daily, using a paper-based form, which is pre-filled with data from the previous round for verification of existing data and to expedite the assessment process. Completed forms are submitted weekly to the provincial DTM office and verified for accuracy by the team leader and data entry clerk. Once verified, the data is entered electronically via mobile devices, using KoBo forms, and submitted directly into DTM's central SQL server in Kabul, where it is systematically cleaned and verified daily, through automated and manual systems. This stringent review process ensures that DTM data is of the highest quality, accuracy and integrity.

When DTM assesses a province for the first time, enumerators collect data through two rounds of two-layered assessments:

- District-level assessment (B1): this assessment aims to identify settlements with high inflows and outflows of Afghan nationals and provide estimated numbers of each target population category.
- Settlement-level assessment (B2): based on the results of B1, this assessment collects information on inflows and outflows of each target population category at each settlement (village), identified through B1. Additional villages are also identified and assessed, based on referrals from KIs.

Since DTM has assessed all 34 provinces, only settlement-level assessments will be conducted in the future. Pending continued funding, DTM aims to conduct baseline mobility assessments, nationwide, twice per year.



As female enumerators attain greater female participation in focus groups, DTM strives to employ more female enumerators to collect gender-balanced information. © IOM 2020



# KEY INFORMANT

DTM's field enumerators collect data at the settlement level, predominantly through community focus group discussions with key informants. While assessing communities, enumerators also observe the living conditions and availability of multi-sectoral services. In the rare case that DTM's District Focal Points cannot physically reach a community, due to insecurity, conflict, or risk of retaliation, DFPs meet the focus groups at safe locations outside their communities or conduct the assessments by phone.

By actively recruiting more female enumerators, though challenging, DTM has made significant strides to improve gender inclusion in focus group discussions, although there is much room for improvement. Women represent only 3% of the key informants, which, although marginal, is an improvement from the 0.1% female representation in DTM 's first round, completed in March 2017.



**72.305** key informants (KIs) interviewed



2.459 female key informants (3%)



69,846 male key informants (97%)



average number of KIs per focus group



key informants are IDPs or returnees (12%)



17,550 KIs from host communities (24%)

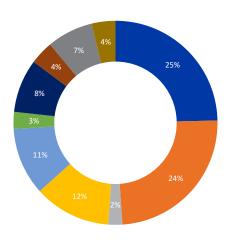


23,796 KIs from multi-sectoral and social services (33%)



19,435 KIs from local authorities (27%)

Key Informants by Type | Overall



- Community Development Council (CDC) Representative
- Community/Tribal Representative
- Other District Authority Representative
- Displaced Groups Representative
- Education Representative
- Health Sector Representative
- Humanitarian/Social Organization
- Small/Medium Enterprise Representative
- Agriculture Representative
- Other



Returnees are Afghan nationals who have returned to Afghanistan in the assessed location after having spent at least six months abroad. This includes both documented returnees (Afghans who were registered refugees in host countries and requested voluntary return with UNHCR and relevant national authorities) and undocumented returnees (Afghans who returned spontaneously or were deported from host countries, irrespective of whether or not they were registered refugees with UNHCR and relevant national authorities).

Since 2016, the number of returnees has significantly decreased each year, although returns from Europe marginally increased. Nangarhar province received 13% of all returnees, nationwide.



**4,196,878** returnees from abroad



**2,218,478** returned from Pakistan (53%)



**2,678,25 I** undocumented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (64%)



I,72 I,66 I returned from Iran (41%)

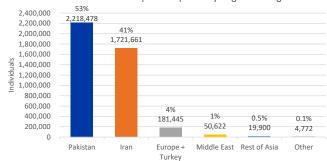


1,261,888 documented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (30%)

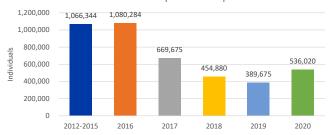


256,739 returnees from non-neighbouring countries (6%)

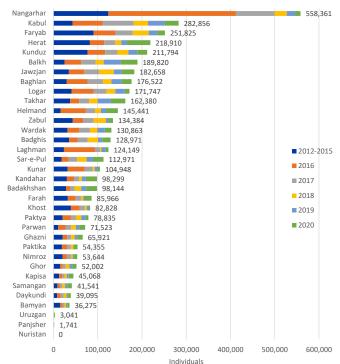
### Returnees from Abroad | Overall | Country/Region of Origin



#### Returnees from Abroad | Annual Trends | Overall



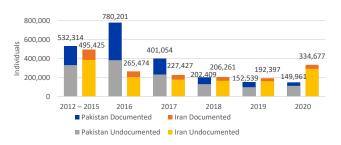




### Returnees from Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends



### Returnees from Pakistan & Iran | Annual Trends





# **↑→** ►► ARRIVAL IDPs

200,000

Ω

2012-2015

Arrival IDPs (IDPs) are Afghans who fled from other settlements in Afghanistan and have arrived and presently reside at the assessed location-host community, as a result of, or in order to avoid, the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, protection concerns, or natural and human-made disasters.

2016 through 2018 saw record numbers of Afghans displaced by conflict and natural disasters, with about 1 million displaced each year, based on our key informants' estimates. In comparison to 2017, the overall number of IDPs increased only slightly in 2018, but decreased by 26% in 2019 and increased again by 16% in 2020. In 2020, Jawzjan, Kapisa, Paktika, Wardak and Zabul show a sharp increase in the number of IDPs, most likely due to Afghans fleeing to safer areas to escape the ongoing armed conflicts. Herat is the most critically affected province, hosting 19% of all IDPs, nationwide.



4,937,277 IDPs currently reside in host communities



3.858.752 displaced due to conflict (78%)



954,878 IDPs in Herat, which hosts the most IDPs



1,078,525 displaced by natural disaster (22%)

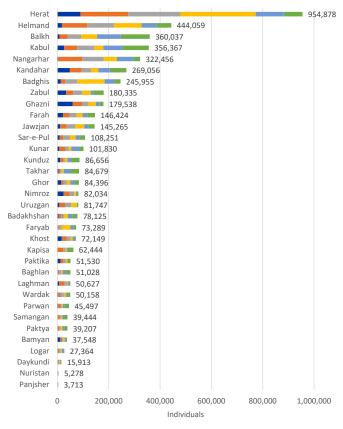


283,028 IDPs reside in informal settlements (6%)



2 in 3 displaced within their home province (64%)



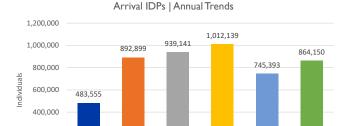


■ 2012-2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017 ■ 2018 ■ 2019 ■ 2020

Arrival IDPs | Shelter | Overall 24% Own House Rented House

■ Host Family

Tent Open Air



Arrival IDPs by Province of Origin | Overall

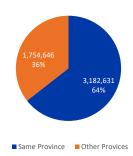
2017

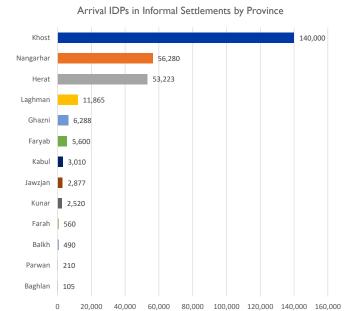
2018

2019

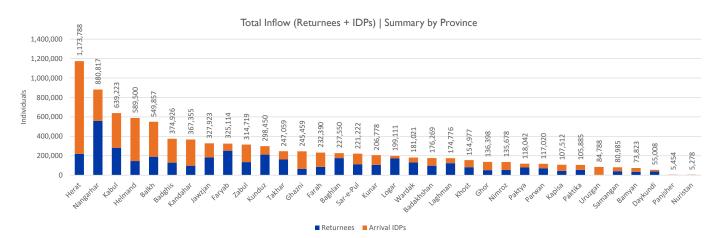
2020

2016





# ↑ + ↑ → TOTAL INFLOW [RETURNEES + ARRIVAL IDPs]



### Total Inflow (Returnees + IDPs) | Summary by Province

Province	Returnees	Arrival IDPs	Total Inflow
Herat	218,910	954,878	1,173,788
Nangarhar	558,361	322,456	880,817
Kabul	282,856	356,367	639,223
Helmand	145,441	444,059	589,500
Balkh	189,820	360,037	549,857
Badghis	128,971	245,955	374,926
Kandahar	98,299	269,056	367,355
Jawzjan	182,658	145,265	327,923
Faryab	251,825	73,289	325,114
Zabul	134,384	180,335	314,719
Kunduz	211,794	86,656	298,450
Takhar	162,380	84,679	247,059
Ghazni	65,921	179,538	245,459
Farah	85,966	146,424	232,390
Baghlan	176,522	51,028	227,550
Sar-e-Pul	112,971	108,251	221,222
Kunar	104,948	101,830	206,778
Logar	171,747	27,364	199,111
Wardak	130,863	50,158	181,021
Badakhshan	98,144	78,125	176,269
Laghman	124,149	50,627	174,776
Khost	82,828	72,149	154,977
Ghor	52,002	84,396	136,398
Nimroz	53,644	82,034	135,678
Paktya	78,835	39,207	118,042
Parwan	71,523	45,497	117,020
Kapisa	45,068	62,444	107,512
Paktika	54,355	51,530	105,885
Uruzgan	3,041	81,747	84,788
Samangan	41,541	39,444	80,985
Bamyan	36,275	37,548	73,823
Daykundi	39,095	15,913	55,008
Panjsher	1,741	3,713	5,454
Nuristan	0	5,278	5,278
Total	4,196,878	4,937,277	9,134,155

The top 25 districts hosting the greatest numbers of returnees and IDPs (total inflow) are listed below. These districts are potentially susceptible to social instability induced by large influxes of returnees and IDPs, who face limited access to basic services and livelihoods, jeopardizing reintegration prospects and fuelling secondary displacement. Nationwide, Herat province hosts the most conflict-displaced and natural disaster displaced IDPs (954,878), 63% of whom were displaced by conflict and 37% by natural disaster, with the majority of IDPs (320,177) residing in urban Herat district. Nangarhar hosts the most returnees (558,361), with the majority of returnees (127,153) residing in Behsud district.

Top 25 Districts hosting the most Returnees + IDPs

Rank	District	Province	Returnees	IDPs	Total Inflow
1	Herat	Herat	105,026	320,177	425,203
2	Kabul	Kabul	99,510	203,721	303,231
3	Lashkargah	Helmand	38,159	240,051	278,210
4	Behsud	Nangarhar	127,153	103,978	231,131
5	Qala-e-Naw	Badghis	30,529	166,012	196,541
6	Shiberghan	Jawzjan	74,269	111,924	186,193
7	Qalat	Zabul	37,717	118,187	155,904
8	Ghazni	Ghazni	15,490	135,970	151,460
9	Sar-e-Pul	Sar-e-Pul	52,246	89,839	142,085
10	Kandahar	Kandahar	27,895	111,265	139,160
11	Karukh	Herat	10,176	128,339	138,515
12	Dehdadi	Balkh	12,166	123,151	135,317
13	Mazar-e-Sharif	Balkh	26,142	107,066	133,208
14	Surkh Rod	Nangarhar	59,987	72,464	132,451
15	Guzara	Herat	9,856	110,325	120,181
16	Nahr-e-Shahi	Balkh	19,439	72,983	92,422
17	Zaranj	Nimroz	32,201	57,545	89,746
18	Injil	Herat	13,504	75,935	89,439
19	Farah	Farah	19,629	66,123	85,752
20	Bagrami	Kabul	34,603	46,035	80,638
21	Nahr-e-Saraj	Helmand	28,143	49,171	77,314
22	Kunduz	Kunduz	45,370	28,739	74,109
23	Maydan Shahr	Wardak	28,075	45,288	73,363
24	Bala Murghab	Badghis	28,336	44,118	72,454
25	Shirin Tagab	Faryab	68,746	3,046	71,792
	Total		1,044,367	2,631,452	3,675,819



Fled IDPs are Afghans who have fled from an assessed location or settlement within which they previously resided and now currently reside in a different settlement in Afghanistan, as a result of, or in order to avoid, the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, protection concerns, or natural and human-made disasters.



5,225,576 fled as IDPs and have not yet returned to their homes



3,619,954 displaced due to conflict (69%)



2 in 3 fled to locations in their home province (68%)



1,605,622 displaced by natural disaster (31%)

# **★** >>> RETURNED IDPS

Returned IDPs are Afghans who have returned to their home or place of origin in the assessed location or settlement from which they had fled as IDPs in the past, as a result of, or in order to avoid, the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, protection concerns, or natural and humanmade disasters.



5,766,941 persons have been IDPs and returned home



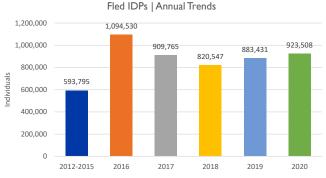
**over 85%** of IDPs from Logar, Laghman & Wardak have not returned home



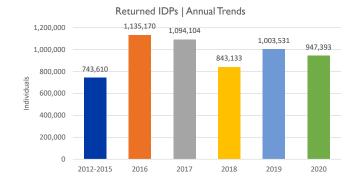
4 in 5 returned from other locations within their home province (83%)

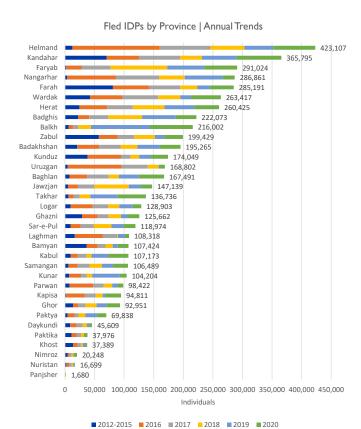


in 4 24% of all returned IDPs returned to Kunduz province

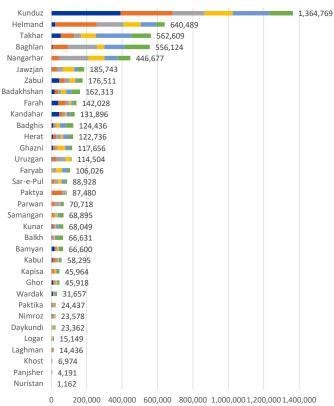








# Returned IDPs by Province | Annual Trends



■2012-2015 ■2016 ■2017 ■2018 ■2019 ■2020

Individuals



Out-Migrants are Afghans who have moved or fled abroad from the assessed location, whatever the cause, reason or duration of expatriation. This category includes refugees, displaced and uprooted people, and economic migrants who have left Afghanistan.

Since 2015, there has been a steady decline in outward migration, likely as a result of economic decline and diminishing protection space in Iran and Pakistan and increased returns from Europe. Key informants estimate that, since 2012, an astounding 309,131 Afghans moved abroad from Faryab, likely due to years of ongoing conflict and resultant underdevelopment, loss of livelihoods and ensuing poverty.



**3,022,889** fled abroad



**399,954** fled to Europe (13%)



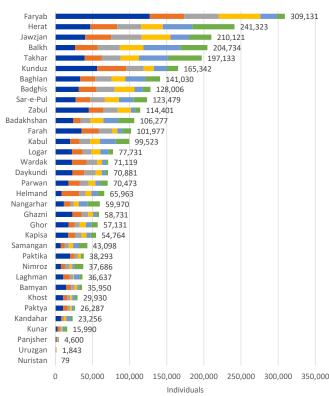
**607,868** fled to Pakistan (20%)



**1,925,942** fled to Iran (64%)

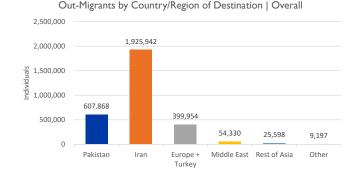


### Out-Migrants by Province | Annual Trends

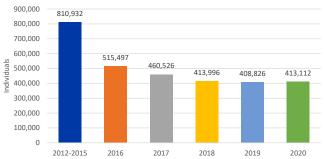




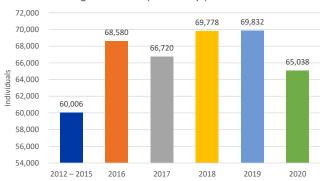
**■** 2012-2015 **■** 2016 **■** 2017 **■** 2018 **■** 2019 **■** 2020



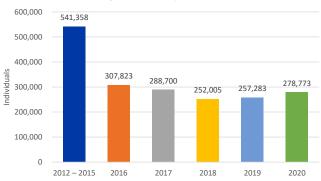
### ${\sf Out\text{-}Migrants}\ {\sf Overall}\ |\ {\sf Annual}\ {\sf Trends}$



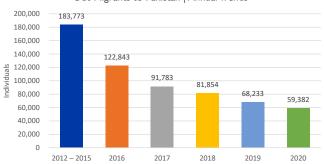
#### Out-Migrants to Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends



### Out-Migrants to Iran | Annual Trends





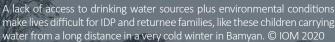






## MULTI-SECTORAL NEEDS

792,605 IDPs and returnees lack access to safe drinking water. Like this village in Jawzjan, communities often resort to fetching drinking water from unprotected, open water sources. © IOM 2020





Many IDP and returnee children, like these boys and girls studying together in Baghlan, have to study in open air or tents without access to assential advantage facilities. © IDM 2020



DTM enumerators contribute to the COVID-19 response by disseminating COVID-19 RCCE information in communities during assessments, like this enumerator in Khost. © IOM 2020



283,028 IDPs live in tents under very poor living conditions in informal settlements. like these families in Herat. © IOM 2020.



Like these children in Baghlan, children often travel long distances to fetch water for their families, which poses protection risks. © IOM 2020



Shelter needs are high with 284,643 returnees and IDPs living in tents or open air under very poor living conditions, like these families in Logar. © IOM 2020



As depicted below, a lack of waterfall during the winter this year is already showing the signs for a severe drought which will eventually affect agriculture, livestock and livelihood opportunities. © IOM 2020



## STORIES FROM THE DISPLACED

## Hussain: Business Startup and Reintegration

Hussain is a 23 year old returnee, who is originally from Ghazni. He migrated to Iran four years ago and worked hard in informal labour for two years to earn the transportation cost for his journey to Europe. Hussain travelled to Turkey and wanted to proceed to Greece but could not cross the border between Turkey and Greece.

"As an irregular migrant, I faced a lot of difficulties and challenges in the way, as well as, in Turkey but could not proceed my journey toward Europe due to border closure and strict monitoring by the border police."

Hussain returned to Afghanistan after staying for one year in Turkey. With the money he earned abroad, Hussain started a strawberry farm in his district.

"I did not have enough experience in farming. I reached out to other farmers to take their opinions about starting up a strawberry form, but no one had enough experience about strawberry farming. Then I referred to online sources and learned about strawberry farming."

Hussain finally invested USD 2,500 to start a strawberry greenhouse. He has been very successful in his business. Hussain earned USD 2.5 to USD 3 from each kilogram of strawberry this year. He plans to set up more strawberry farms in the province and double his revenue by the next year.

\*Please note that the names have been changed and village locations have been kept anonymous to protect the identity of the interviewee.

Hussain, a returnee from Turkey, has successfully integrated in the community by starting a strawberry farm.© IOM 2020

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Please visit the DTM Afghanistan web page for more information, including downloadable maps and datasets, as well as interactive maps and dashboards:

www.displacement.iom.int-afghanistan

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