QUARTERLY FLOW MONITORING OF AFGHAN RETURNEES

DATA COLLECTION PERIOD: JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023

IOM UN MIGRATION | GLOBAL DATA INSTITUTE DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

OVERVIEW

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Pakistan collects data on the outflows of Afghans at the Torkham and Chaman border crossing points to better understand the movements of Afghans returning to Afghanistan. Key findings during this reporting period are:

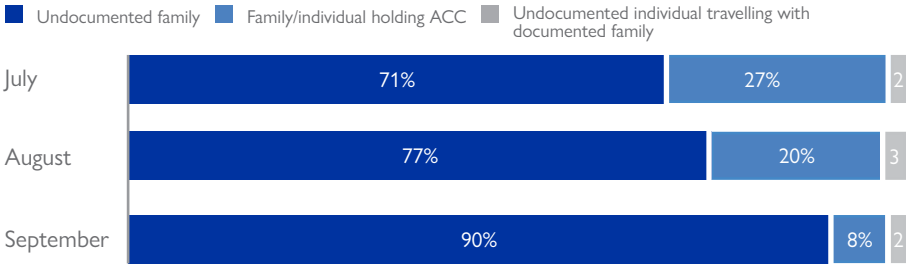
- Between July and September 2023, 39,176 Afghan nationals spontaneously returned to Afghanistan, including 21,182 through the Torkham border point and 17,994 through the Chaman border point. In addition, border authorities forcibly returned 998 individuals due to a lack of valid documentation.
- During the reporting period, spontaneous returns through both border points increased compared to the previous reporting periods, especially during the month September, where return through Chaman rose to 9,612 returns and in Torkham to 14,352 returns. The significant increase in returns, especially for Torkham, is due to the announcement of the Government of Pakistan that Tazkira holders are allowed to cross the border until further notice.
- This announcement is part of the "Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan", which was announced on 26 September 2023 by the Government of Pakistan. The plan comprises of mechanisms to consolidate databases of "illegal foreigners" in the country, check entry of new illegal entrants, apprehension, deportation, repatriation of illegal/overstaying foreigners.

39,176 AFGHAN RETURNEES AT TORKHAM AND CHAMAN BETWEEN JULY AND SEPTEMBER 2023

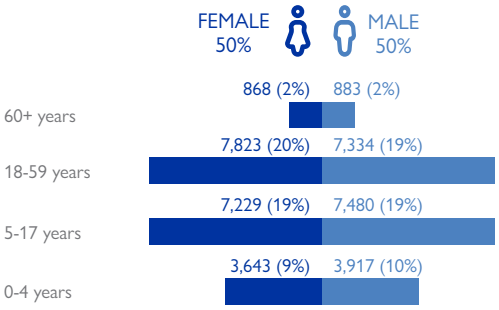
DISTRIBUTION OF RETURNEES

Undocumented family	84%
Family/Individual holding ACC	14%
Undocumented individual travelling with documented family	2%

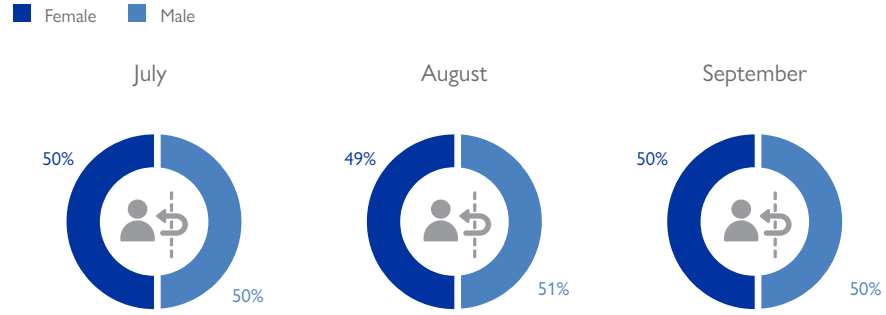
DOCUMENTATION CATEGORY BY MONTH



AGE AND GENDER



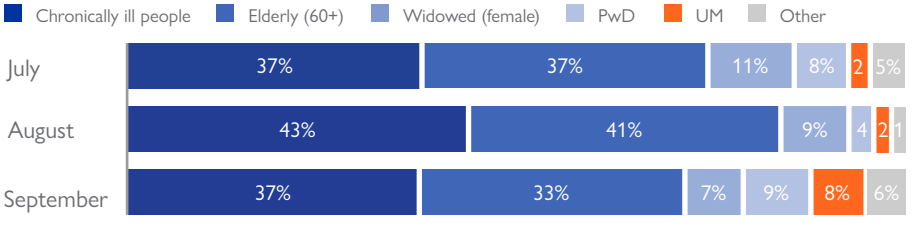
GENDER DISTRIBUTION BY MONTH



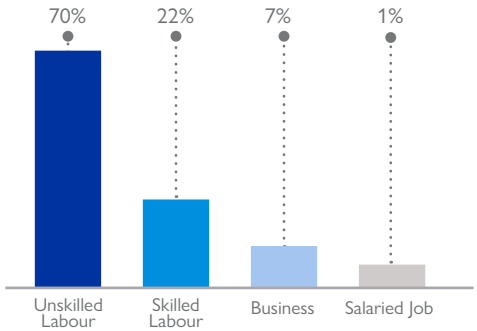
TYPE OF VULNERABILITY

885 (38%) Chronically Ill People	817 (35%) Elderly (60+)	195 (8%) Widowed (female)	
179 (8%) Persons with Disabilities (PwD)	132 (6%) Unaccompanied minor (UM)	126 (5%) Other[1]	

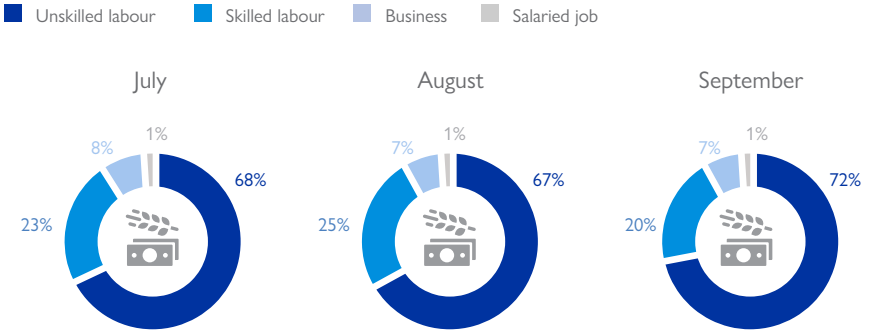
TYPE OF VULNERABILITY OF RETURNEES WHO ARE VULNERABLE BY MONTH



OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD IN PAKISTAN



OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD IN PAKISTAN BY MONTH



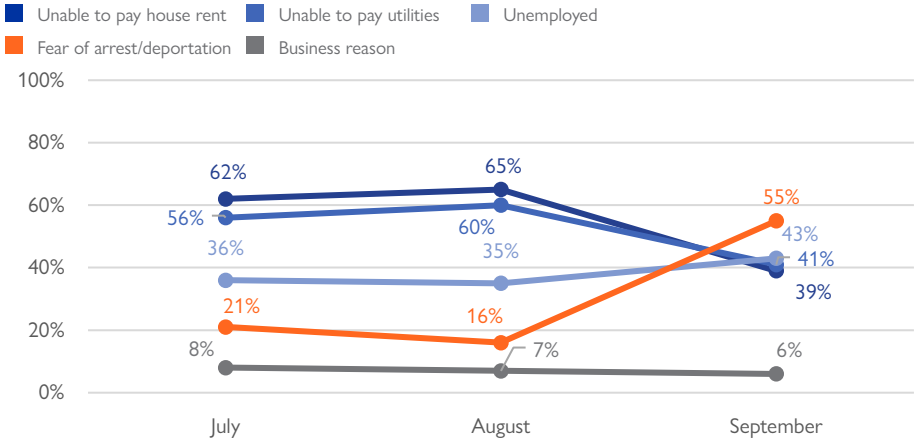
[1] Other vulnerable persons include: divorced (female), drug addicts and mentally ill persons.

FLOW MONITORING OF AFGHAN RETURNEES
DATA COLLECTION PERIOD: JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023

PUSH FACTORS (Multiple answers, N = 1,859)

Unable to pay house rent	50%
Unable to pay utilities	48%
Unemployed	40%
Fear of arrest/deportation	39%
Business reasons	7%

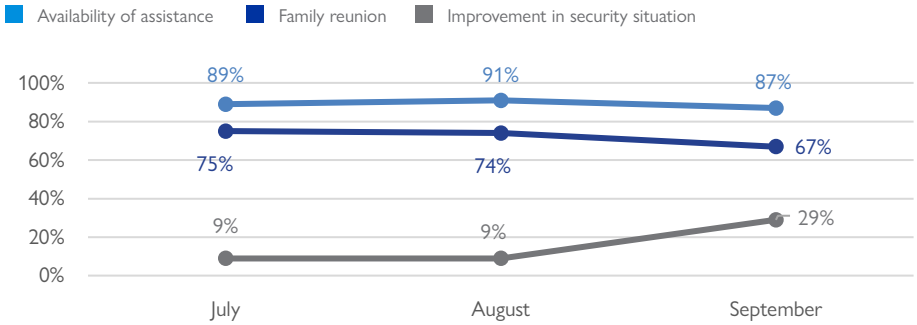
MONTHLY TREND



PULL FACTORS (Multiple answers, N = 1,859)

Availability of assistance	88%
Family reunion	70%
Improvement in security situation	20%

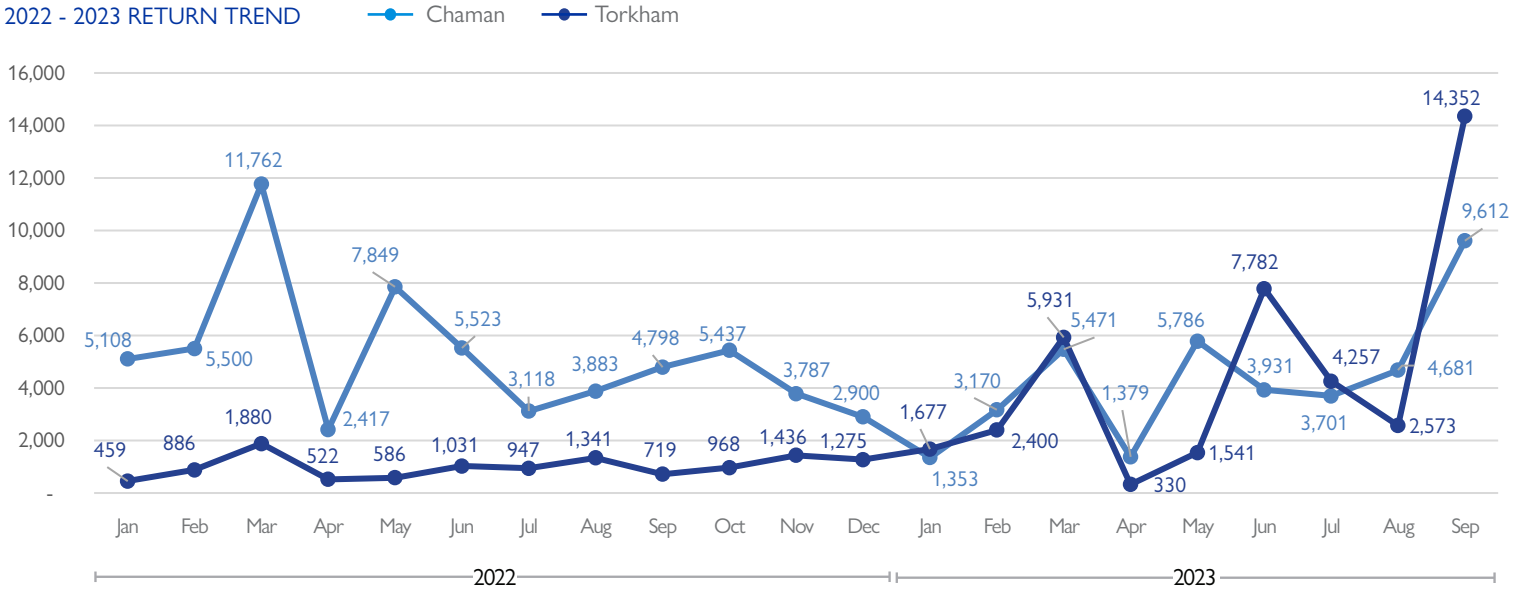
MONTHLY TREND



CHALLENGES RETURNEES EXPECT TO FACE IN AFGHANISTAN (Multiple answers, N = 1,859)

Income opportunities	93%
Resettle in a new city	85%
Arrange for shelter	84%
Arrange for livelihoods	82%
Education	20%
Availability of clean drinking water	15%
Availability of medicine and health facilities	11%
Security challenges	5%

2022 - 2023 RETURN TREND



FLOW MONITORING OF AFGHAN RETURNEES
DATA COLLECTION PERIOD: JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023

SETTLEMENT TYPE LEGEND

Rented house | Living with host community | Camp | Living with relatives

DISTRICTS OF ORIGIN IN PAKISTAN OF RETURNEES

LEGEND

- International border
- Province border
- District border
- Line of control
- Disputed border
- District without returnees

NUMBER OF RETURNEES

- 1 - 1,500
- 1,501 - 3,000
- 3,001 - 4,500
- 4,501 - 10,000

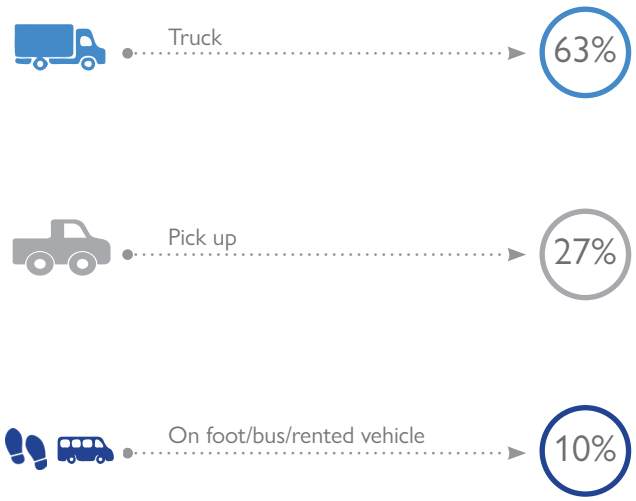
ORIGIN DISTRICT	SETTLEMENT TYPE
1. Quetta 24%	100%
2. Killa Abdullah 19%	94% / 6%
3. Karachi Central 16%	100%
4. Pishin 11%	74% / 26%
5. Peshawar 9%	64% / 3% / 27% / 6%

Note:
This map and the following legend focus on the top 5 districts of origin in Pakistan during the reporting period of July to September 2023.

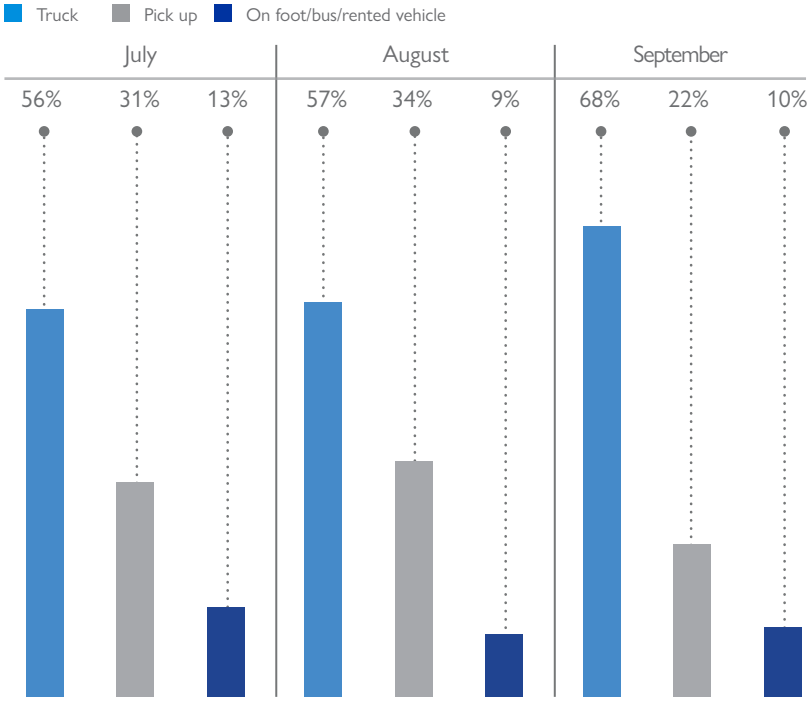
Disclaimer:
Dotted line represents approximately the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM or 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.

TRANSPORTATION TYPE FROM ORIGIN TO BORDER

Average type of vehicle used until border point between July and September 2023



TRANSPORTATION TYPE BY MONTH

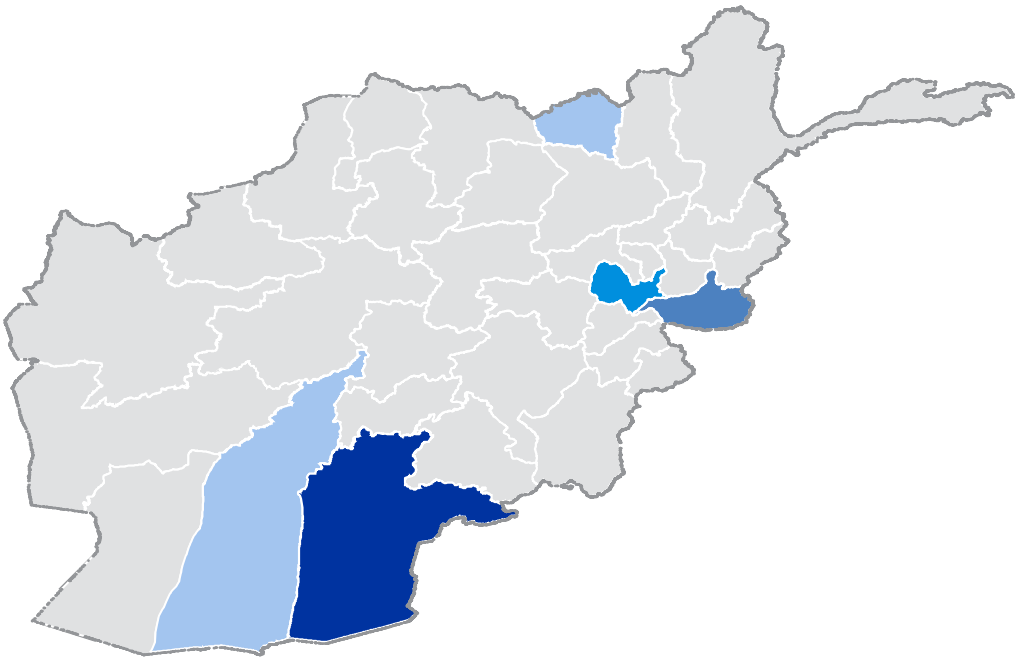


FLOW MONITORING OF AFGHAN RETURNEES
DATA COLLECTION PERIOD: JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023

SETTLEMENT TYPE LEGEND

- Rented house
- Own house in Afghanistan
- Spontaneous settlement in Pakistan
- Living with relatives

PROVINCE OF INTENDED RETURN IN AFGHANISTAN



INTENDED PROVINCE		SETTLEMENT TYPE			
1. Kandahar	44%	85%	9%		6%
2. Nangarhar	11%	59%	14%	2%	25%
3. Kabul	10%	67%	4%	7%	22%
4. Kunduz	6%	77%	11%		12%
5. Helmand	4%	80%	10%		10%

Note:
This map and the following legend focus on the top 5 provinces of intended destination in Afghanistan only during the reporting period of July to September 2023

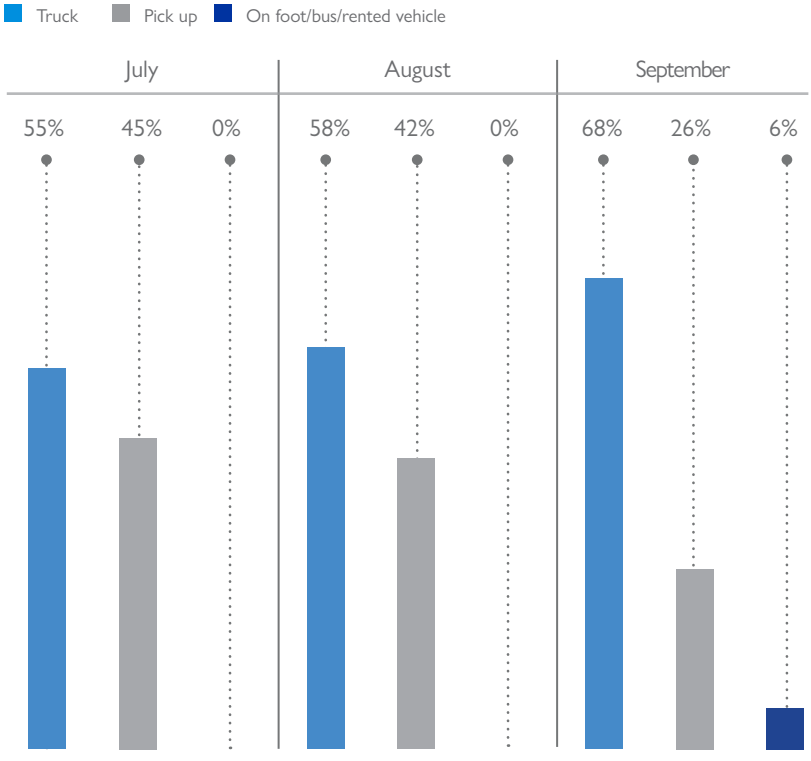
Disclaimer:
The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

TRANSPORTATION TYPE FROM BORDER TO FINAL DESTINATION

Average type of vehicle used from border point to final destination between July and September 2023

- Truck: 63%
- Pick up: 34%
- On foot/bus/rented vehicle: 3%

TRANSPORTATION TYPE BY MONTH



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
UKaid from the British people
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
ITALIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
Co-funded by the European Union

Contact: dtmpakistan@iom.int – https://dtm.iom.int/pakistan
Disclaimer: This document was produced with the financial assistance of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), the Government of Italy, the US Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) and the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the aforementioned donors.