



## 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. For more information about DTM in Afghanistan, please visit [www.displacement.iom.int/afghanistan](http://www.displacement.iom.int/afghanistan).

In Afghanistan, DTM employs the Baseline Mobility Assessment tool, designed to track mobility, determine the population sizes and locations of forcibly displaced people, reasons for displacement, places of origin, displacement locations and times of displacement, including basic demographics, as well as vulnerabilities and priority needs. Data is collected at the settlement level, through key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and direct observations.

DTM enables IOM and its partners to deliver evidence-based, better targeted, mobility-sensitive and sustainable humanitarian assistance, reintegration, community stabilization and development programming.

## 5 TARGET POPULATIONS

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

1. Returnees from Abroad
2. Out-Migrants  
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), subdivided into the following three categories:
3. Arrival IDPs
4. Returnee IDPs
5. Fled IDPs

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.

## HIGHLIGHTS



**15** provinces assessed

**188** districts assessed

**6,510** settlements assessed

in Baghlan, Balkh, Farah, Herat, Kabul, Kandahar, Khost, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Logar, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Paktya and Takhar



**35,320**

key informants interviewed



**1,821,011**

returnees from abroad [2012–2017]



**1,728,157**

IDPs [2012–2017] are currently displaced



**1,635,194**

former IDPs have returned to their homes [2012–2017]



**772,109**

out-migrants fled abroad [2012–2017]



**110,534**

out-migrants fled to Europe (14% of out-migrants)



**101,606**

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



**1 in 2**

persons from Kunduz has been an IDP and returned home



**1 in 3**

persons from Farah has fled their home as an IDP



**1 in 3**

persons from Nangarhar and Nimroz is either an IDP or Returnee



**1 in 4**

persons from Kunar and Logar is either an IDP or Returnee

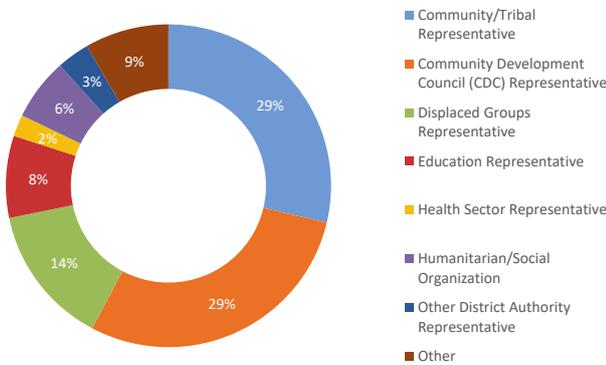
## KEY INFORMANTS

DTM’s field enumerators, District Focal Points (DFPs), collect data at the settlement level, predominantly through focus group discussions with key informants. The average size of focus groups is five key informants per group. In the rare case that DTM’s District Focal Points cannot physically reach a community, due to insecurity, conflict, or risk of retaliation by anti-government elements, DFPs meet the focus groups at a safe place outside their communities or conduct the assessments by phone.

Significant highlights regarding the overall composition of Key Informant Focus Groups include the following:

-  **35,320** key informants (KIs) interviewed
-  **62** DTM field enumerators
-  **2,195** female key informants (6%)
-  **4,947** returnee and IDP key informants (14%)
-  **33,125** male key informants (94%)
-  **10,128** KIs from host communities (29%)
-  **5.4** average number of KIs per focus group
-  **11,434** KIs from local authorities (32%)

Key Informants by Type



Gender inclusion is extremely challenging in male-dominated Afghanistan. However, great strides are being made as DTM hires more women. Nimroz leads the way, where 19% of focus group participants are women, mainly thanks to our female DFP, pictured here. © IOM 2017

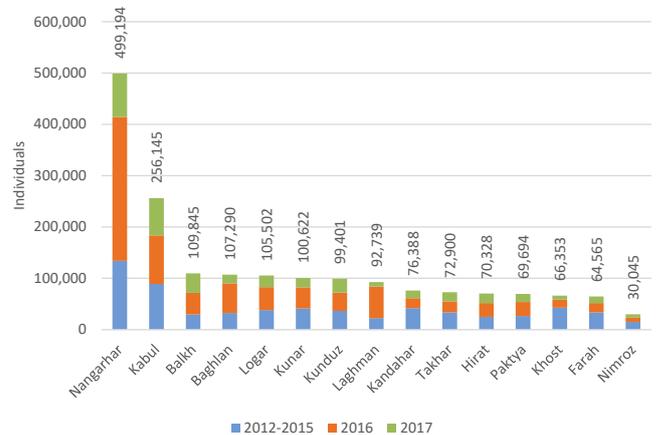
## RETURNEES

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

The number of returnees from abroad increased by 24% in 2016 alone, compared to the period between 2012 and 2015, followed by a notable 52% decrease in returns in 2017. Over all three time frames, Nangarhar has received the most returnees (499,194), nearly twice as many as Kabul (256,145).

-  **1,821,011** returnees from abroad
-  **1,355,488** returned from Pakistan (74%)
-  **938,478** undocumented returnees from Pakistan + Iran
-  **398,521** returned from Iran (22%)
-  **815,531** documented returnees from Pakistan + Iran
-  **67,002** returnees from non-neighbouring countries (4%)

Returnees from Abroad by Province | Annual Trends



Returnees from Abroad | Annual Trends

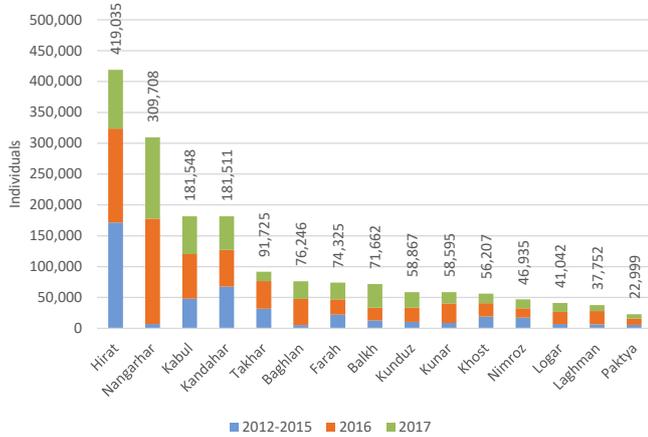


## ARRIVAL IDPs

Arrival IDPs (IDPs) are Afghans who have 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.



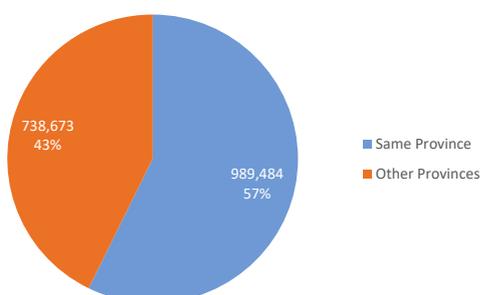
Arrival IDPs by Province | Annual Trends



Arrival IDPs | Annual Trends



Arrival IDPs by Province of Origin | Overall

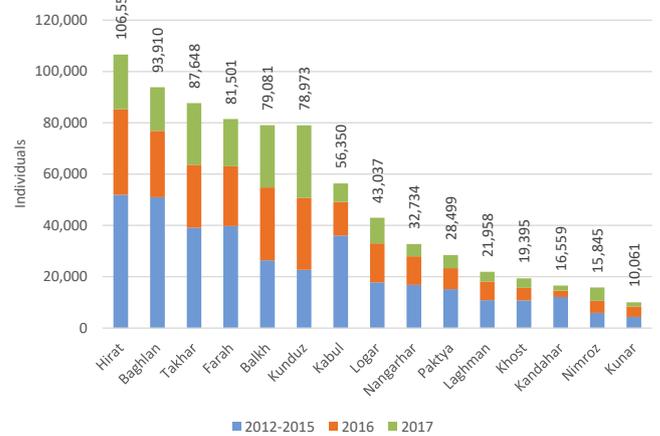


## OUT-MIGRANTS

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.



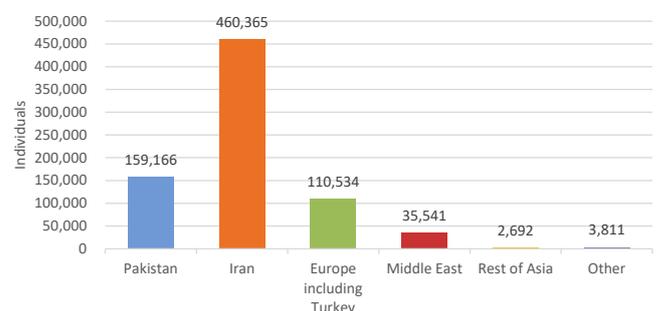
Out-Migrants by Province | Annual Trends



Out-Migrants | Annual Trends



Out-Migrants by Country/Region of Destination | Overall



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

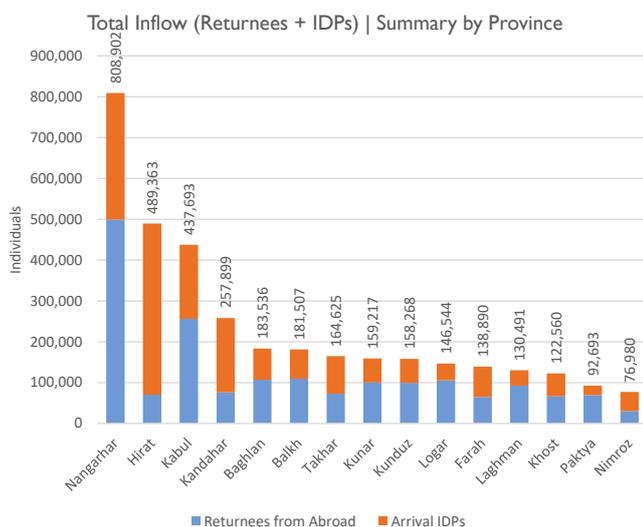
Province	*Base Population	Total Inflow (Returnees + Arrival IDPs)	% of Pop.	Returnees	% of Pop.	Returnee IDPs	% of Pop.	Arrival IDPs	% of Pop.	Fled IDPs	% of Pop.	Out Migrants	% of Pop.
Baghlan	926,969	183,536	17%	107,290	10%	265,839	29%	76,246	7%	108,001	12%	93,910	10%
Balkh	1,353,626	181,507	12%	109,845	7%	19,329	1%	71,662	5%	13,548	1%	79,081	6%
Farah	515,973	138,890	21%	64,565	10%	100,189	19%	74,325	11%	196,643	38%	81,501	16%
Herat	1,928,327	489,363	20%	70,328	3%	38,927	2%	419,035	17%	77,518	4%	106,558	6%
Kabul	4,523,718	437,693	9%	256,145	5%	31,861	1%	181,548	4%	69,479	2%	56,350	1%
Kandahar	1,252,786	257,899	17%	76,388	5%	87,992	7%	181,511	12%	196,266	16%	16,559	1%
Khost	584,075	122,560	17%	66,353	9%	13,926	2%	56,207	8%	41,792	7%	19,395	3%
Kunar	458,130	159,217	26%	100,622	16%	34,058	7%	58,595	9%	47,699	10%	10,061	2%
Kunduz	1,029,473	158,268	13%	99,401	8%	585,475	57%	58,867	5%	69,004	7%	78,973	8%
Laghman	452,922	130,491	22%	92,739	16%	12,843	3%	37,752	6%	88,788	20%	21,958	5%
Logar	398,535	146,544	27%	105,502	19%	13,433	3%	41,042	8%	112,285	28%	43,037	11%
Nangarhar	1,545,448	808,902	34%	499,194	21%	218,289	14%	309,708	13%	252,161	16%	32,734	2%
Nimroz	167,863	76,980	31%	30,045	12%	9,958	6%	46,935	19%	10,750	6%	15,845	9%
Paktya	561,200	92,693	14%	69,694	11%	43,076	8%	22,999	4%	42,517	8%	28,499	5%
Takhar	1,000,336	164,625	14%	72,900	6%	159,999	16%	91,725	8%	30,795	3%	87,648	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,699,381</b>	<b>3,549,168</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>1,821,011</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>1,635,194</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>1,728,157</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>819,950</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>772,109</b>	<b>5%</b>

\* Base Population source: OCHA, CSO Population Estimates for 2016 to 2017, 15-AUG-2016

Symbology: > 20% of base population

Total Inflow (Returnees + IDPs) | Summary by Province

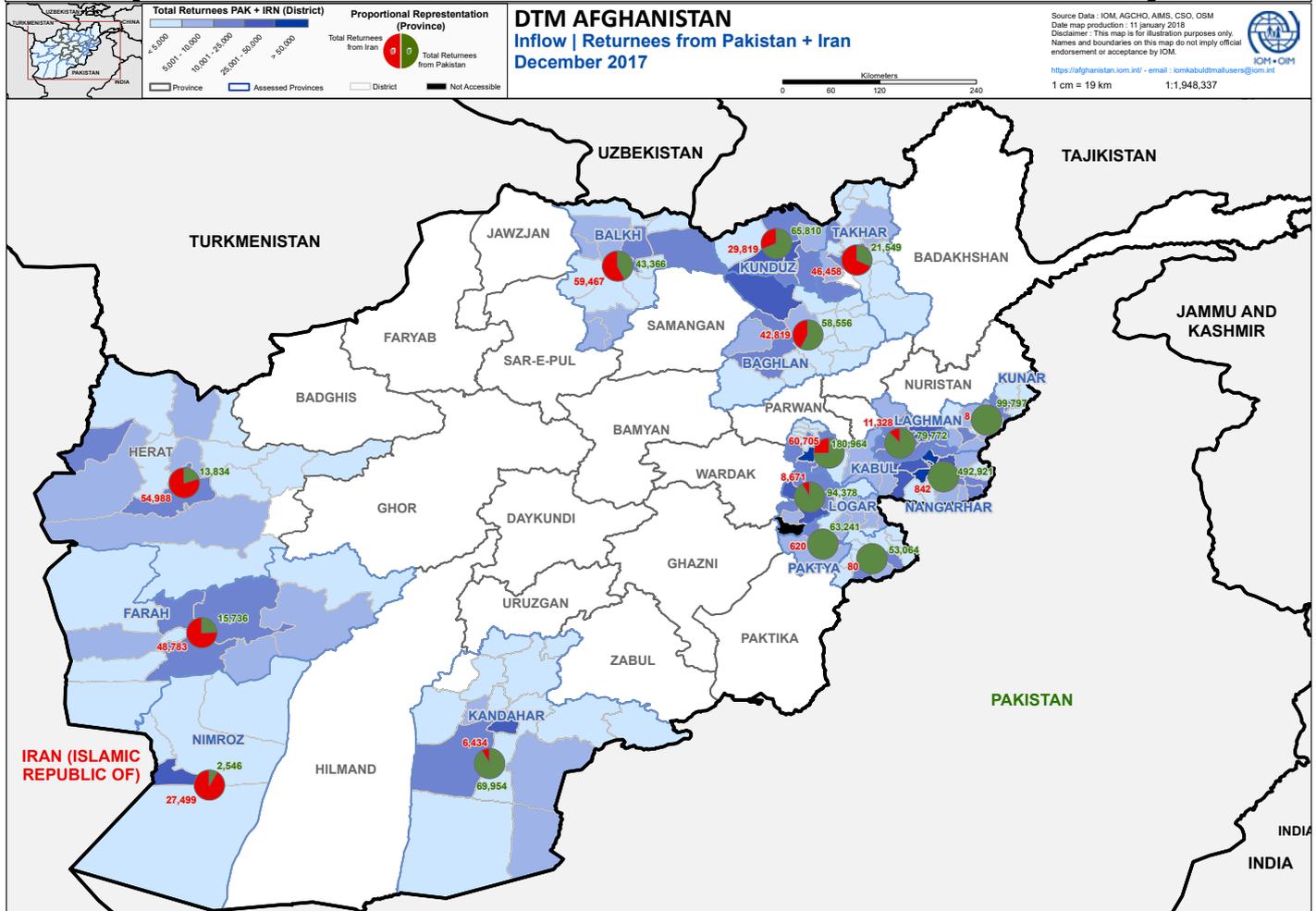
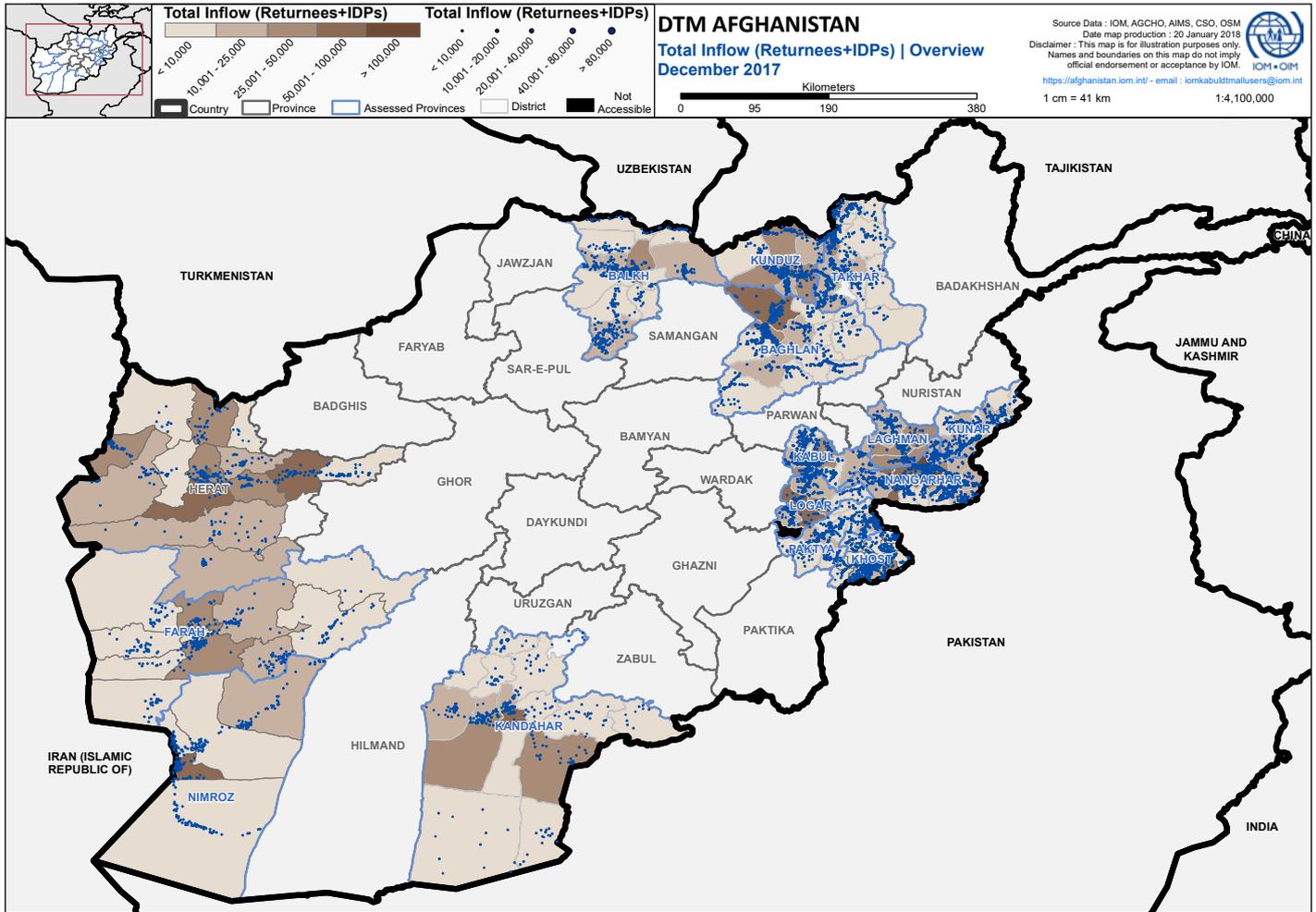
Province	Returnees	Arrival IDPs	Total Inflow
Nangarhar	499,194	309,708	808,902
Herat	70,328	419,035	489,363
Kabul	256,145	181,548	437,693
Kandahar	76,388	181,511	257,899
Baghlan	107,290	76,246	183,536
Balkh	109,845	71,662	181,507
Takhar	72,900	91,725	164,625
Kunar	100,622	58,595	159,217
Kunduz	99,401	58,867	158,268
Logar	105,502	41,042	146,544
Farah	64,565	74,325	138,890
Laghman	92,739	37,752	130,491
Khost	66,353	56,207	122,560
Paktya	69,694	22,999	92,693
Nimroz	30,045	46,935	76,980
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,821,011</b>	<b>1,728,157</b>	<b>3,549,168</b>



The top 20 districts, hosting the most returnees and IDPs, are listed below. These districts are potentially susceptible to social instability induced by the large influx of returnees and IDPs and the subsequent competition for limited, already overstretched resources and job opportunities. Behsud in Nangarhar province is the most affected district, hosting a total inflow of 192,845 returnees and IDPs, of which 63% (120,966) are returnees and 37% (71,879) are IDPs. Practically all (99%) of the returnees in Behsud are from Pakistan, of which 66% are registered refugees and 34% are undocumented. Conversely, Herat district, the second most affected, hosts 175,899 returnees and IDPs, of which 88% (154,257) are IDPs and 12% (21,642) are returnees. The third most affected, Kabul district, hosts a more balanced mix of 56% (68,452) IDPs and 44% returnees.

Top 20 Districts hosting the most Returnees + IDPs

Rank	Province	District	Returnees	IDPs	Total Inflow
1	Nangarhar	Behsud	120,966	71,879	192,845
2	Hirat	Herat	21,642	154,257	175,899
3	Kabul	Kabul	53,818	68,452	122,270
4	Kabul	Paghman	60,312	34,625	94,937
5	Kandahar	Kandahar	25,176	69,455	94,631
6	Nangarhar	Jalalabad	54,091	29,131	83,222
7	Kabul	Mirbachakot	60,166	17,115	77,281
8	Nangarhar	Chaparhar	52,464	15,539	68,003
9	Logar	Pul-e- Alam	44,450	21,747	66,197
10	Hirat	Guzara	9,962	52,528	62,490
11	Nangarhar	Surkhrod	33,372	28,710	62,082
12	Nangarhar	Khogyani	36,730	24,019	60,749
13	Baghlan	Baghlan-e-Jadid	34,034	24,918	58,952
14	Nangarhar	Shinwar	16,190	40,367	56,557
15	Kunduz	Kunduz	28,755	20,356	49,111
16	Hirat	Obe	630	47,400	48,030
17	Balkh	Nahr-e- Shahi	24,169	23,207	47,376
18	Hirat	Kohsan	10,356	36,014	46,370
19	Baghlan	Pul-e- khumri	17,692	27,498	45,190
20	Nimroz	Zaranj	19,067	24,354	43,421
<b>Total</b>			<b>724,042</b>	<b>831,571</b>	<b>1,555,613</b>



## TOP 5 PRIORITY PROVINCES

Evidence-based prioritization is essential to the delivery of better targeted assistance and basic services. DTM provides partners with lists of priority areas in most need of assistance, based on a variety of sectoral indicators, at Province, District and Settlement levels.

(NOTE: The number of individuals reported below is based on the Total Inflow: Returnees + IDPs)

### TOP 5 Provinces with the most Returnees and IDPs (Returnees + IDPs)

Rank	Province	Individuals
1	Nangarhar	808,902
2	Herat	489,363
3	Kabul	437,693
4	Kandahar	257,899
5	Baghlan	183,536
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,177,393</b>

### TOP 5 in need of Shelter (Returnees + IDPs living in Tents or in the Open Air)

Rank	Province	Individuals
1	Nangarhar	51,403
2	Kandahar	11,946
3	Laghman	9,384
4	Herat	8,223
5	Kabul	5,425
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>86,381</b>

### TOP 5 in need of Water (potable water > 3 km away)

Rank	Province	Individuals
1	Herat	59,706
2	Baghlan	43,473
3	Balkh	34,012
4	Farah	33,394
5	Kandahar	24,201
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>194,786</b>

### TOP 5 in need of Clinics (nearest clinic > 5 km away)

Rank	Province	Individuals
1	Nangarhar	133,673
2	Herat	129,696
3	Kandahar	88,779
4	Baghlan	73,370
5	Balkh	59,273
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>484,791</b>

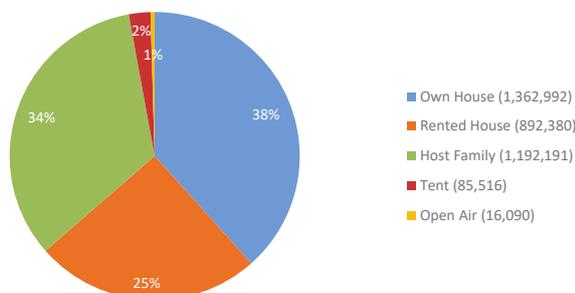
### TOP 5 in need of Schools (nearest school > 3 km away)

Rank	Province	Individuals
1	Kandahar	62,655
2	Nangarhar	60,496
3	Farah	47,337
4	Herat	35,835
5	Kabul	27,281
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>233,604</b>

### TOP 5 in need of Markets (nearest market > 10 km away)

Rank	Province	Individuals
1	Herat	117,600
2	Kandahar	97,080
3	Baghlan	84,460
4	Balkh	69,605
5	Kunduz	61,642
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>430,387</b>

Total Inflow (Returnees + IDPs) | Shelter Status



## STORIES FROM THE DISPLACED

### FORMER PRISONER AND REFUGEE IS HAPPY TO BE RETURNED HOME

Noorullah Durani is a resident of a small town in Kandahar province. He lived close to the Pakistani border in an area that is commonly frequented by cross-border transporting, shipping and trade. The area was also a hotbed for militant activity, and in 2011, the Taliban attacked the village blocking off the roads and capturing hundreds of civilians, including Noorullah.

Noorullah was arrested and sent to prison for 24 days. In the meantime, his family were suffering the adverse impact of a Taliban occupation – lack of access to foods and medical clinics and the temporary close of shops and local businesses. After Noorullah was released from prison, he took his wife and children and left Afghanistan for Quetta, Pakistan.

*Noorullah and his family are among the 15,272 individuals from kandahar who have fled to Pakistan since 2012.*

After being arrested by Pakistani border officials and subsequently bribing the border officials, the family settled in Pakistan. Noorullah started daily wage work as a bricklayer where he earned \$3 daily, which was not enough money for food, rent or for medicine for his younger daughter who had recently been diagnosed with pneumonia.

As his troubles began to mount, Noorullah's family received a lifeline in an unexpected form. In 2016, they were arrested by Pakistani officials, and this time deported back to Afghanistan. In that same year, they returned to a village that, to their great surprise and joy, had undergone a healthy and positive transformation. The roads, market, and local services were now open and safe for access. Noorullah was able to find a job as a farmer on his former land and his children were readmitted to school.

The Durani family consider themselves blessed and fortunate to be safe and comfortable in their hometown.



In 2016, 19,623 Afghans, like Noorullah and his family, returned to Kandahar. Noorullah is fortunate to have returned to a relatively safe village with employment opportunities.

DTM in Afghanistan is generously supported by:

