OVERVIEW

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Pakistan collects data on the outflows of Afghans at the Torkham, Ghulam Khan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Chaman, and Badini (Balochistan) border crossing points (BCPs) to better understand the movements of Afghans returning to Afghanistan. Ghulam Khan and Badini are newly added BCPs.

Between 1 and 15 November 2023, 171,305 Afghan nationals returned to Afghanistan, including 117,319 through the Torkham BCP, 51,745 through the Chaman BCP, 2,216 through the Ghulam Khan BCP and 25 through the Badini BCP. In addition, border authorities forcibly returned 15,171 individuals due to a lack of valid documentation. Since 1 January 2023, IOM identified 401,872 returns at the four BCPs, excluding those forcibly returned.

On 26 September 2023, the Ministry of Interior in Pakistan announced its decision to enact an "Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan". 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.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Since the enactment of the "Repatriation Plan" on 1 November 2023, returns of Afghans remained unprecedentedly high. A comparison with the previous reporting period shows an increase of 57 per cent compared to the previous reporting period.
- Forced returns have increased drastically, from 345 forced returns during the previous reporting period to 15,171 during this reporting period.
- In terms of push factors, during the current reporting period, 97 per cent of the surveyed returnee families indicated they are moving back to Afghanistan due to fear of arrest. Twenty-two per cent also indicated communal pressure as an important push factor.
- During the reporting period, three per cent of the overall flow could be considered vulnerable persons.[1] The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) registered 2,547 returnees moving back to Afghanistan who were chronically ill and require medical attention, in addition to 1,803 elderly individuals, and 513 persons with disabilities (PWD).
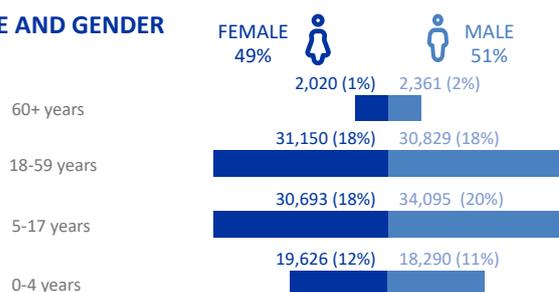

401,872 AFGHAN RETURNEES AT TORKHAM AND CHAMAN (BETWEEN 1 JANUARY – 15 NOVEMBER 2023)

DISTRIBUTION OF RETURNEES BETWEEN 01 TO 15 NOVEMBER

Undocumented	97%
ACC holder	1%
PoR Card holder	2%

AGE AND GENDER

This visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham and Chaman

FEMALE 49%   MALE 51%

	FEMALE	MALE
60+ years	2,020 (1%)	2,361 (2%)
18-59 years	31,150 (18%)	30,829 (18%)
5-17 years	30,693 (18%)	34,095 (20%)
0-4 years	19,626 (12%)	18,290 (11%)

PUSH FACTORS (Multiple answers, N = 6,401, can exceed 100%)

This visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham and Chaman

Fear of arrest	97%
Communal pressure to return	22%
No employment	13%
Unable to pay utilities	2%
Unable to pay rent	0%

PULL FACTORS (Multiple answers, N = 6,401, can exceed 100%)

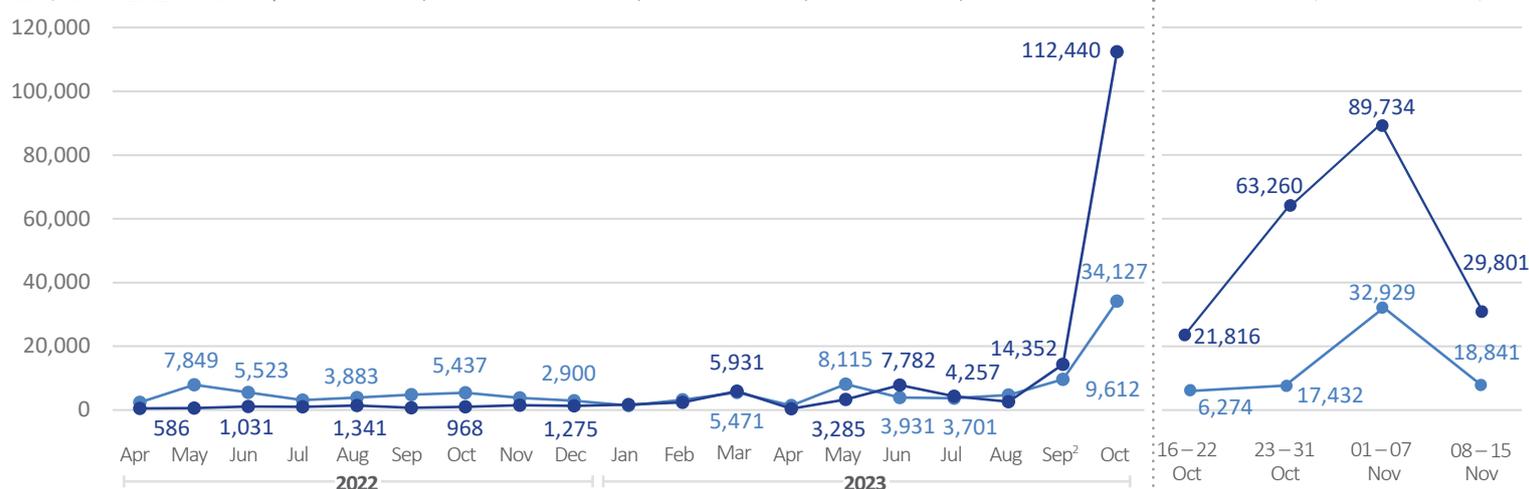This visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham and Chaman

Family reunion	95%
Availability of assistance	47%
Improvement in security situation	4%

RETURN TREND

— Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Torkham and Ghulam Khan) — Balochistan (Chaman and Badini)

MONTHLY TRENDS

Month	Balochistan	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Apr 2022		586
May	7,849	1,031
Jun	5,523	
Jul	3,883	1,341
Aug	5,437	968
Sep		
Oct	2,900	1,275
Nov		
Dec		
Jan 2023		
Feb		
Mar		5,931
	5,471	
Apr		3,285
May	8,115	
Jun	7,782	3,931
Jul	4,257	3,701
Aug		
Sep[2]	14,352	9,612
Oct	34,127	112,440

WEEKLY TRENDS (LAST FOUR WEEKS)

Week	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Balochistan
16 – 22 Oct	21,816	6,274
23 – 31 Oct	63,260	17,432
01 – 07 Nov	89,734	32,929
08 – 15 Nov	29,801	18,841

[1] Vulnerable persons include: persons with disabilities, those who need medical attention, pregnant women, elderly persons, unaccompanied minors, drug addicts, mentally ill persons and widowed persons.
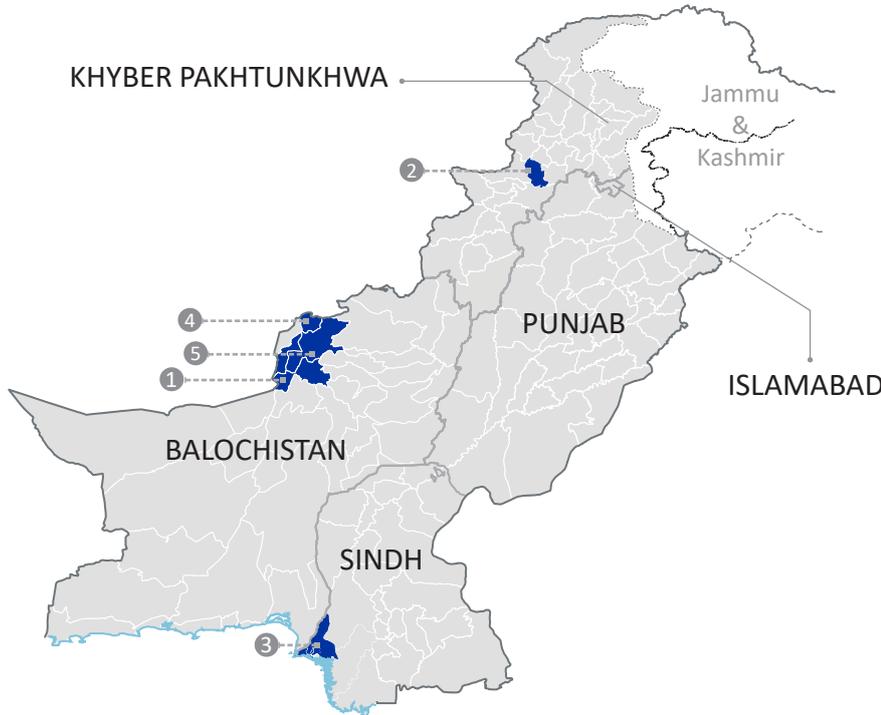[2] As of 15 September 2023, IOM and UNHCR have harmonized their flow monitoring data, therefore, data prior to 15 September 2023 does not include PoR holders.

SETTLEMENT TYPE LEGEND

● Rented house   ○ Spontaneous settlement   ● Own house   ● Camp   ○ Living with relatives

This visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham and Chaman

DISTRICTS OF ORIGIN IN PAKISTAN

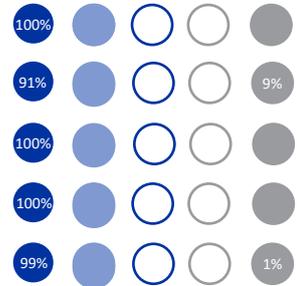KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

Jammu & Kashmir

PUNJAB

ISLAMABAD

BALOCHISTAN

SINDH

LEGEND

———	International border
———	Sea border
- - -	Disputed border
•••••	Line of control
———	Province border
———	District border
▅	Origin district of returnees
▅	District without returnees

ORIGIN DISTRICT / SETTLEMENT TYPE

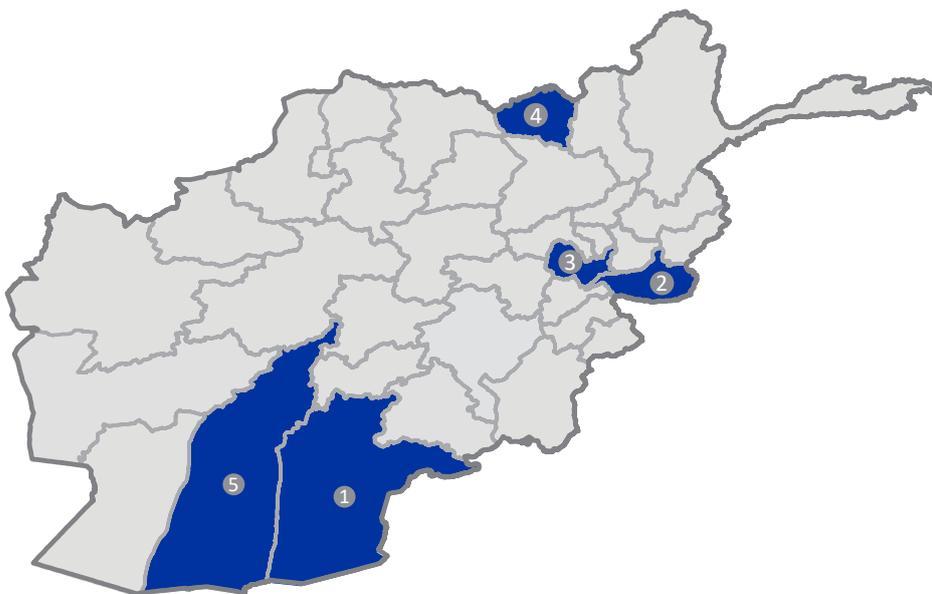| ORIGIN DISTRICT		Rented house	Own house	Spontaneous settlement	Living with relatives	Camp
1. Quetta	25%	100%	●	○	○	●
2. Peshawar	15%	91%	●	○	○	9%
3. Karachi	10%	100%	●	○	○	●
4. Killa Abdullah	10%	100%	●	○	○	●
5. Pishin	5%	99%	●	○	○	1%

Note:
This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 districts of origin in Pakistan during the reporting period from 01 – 15 November 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.

This visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham and Chaman
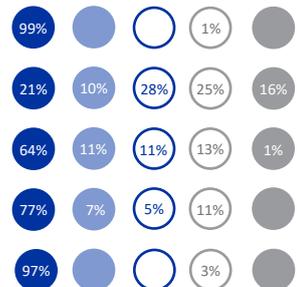
PROVINCES OF INTENDED DESTINATION

LEGEND

———	International border
———	Province border
▅	Province of intended destination
▅	Other provinces

INTENDED PROVINCE / SETTLEMENT TYPE

INTENDED PROVINCE		Rented house	Own house	Spontaneous settlement	Living with relatives	Camp
1. Kandahar	36%	99%	●	○	1%	●
2. Nangarhar	29%	21%	10%	28%	25%	16%
3. Kabul	10%	64%	11%	11%	13%	1%
4. Kunduz	4%	77%	7%	5%	11%	●
5. Helmand	4%	97%	●	○	3%	●

Note:
This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 provinces of intended destination in Afghanistan during the reporting period from 01 – 15 November 2023

Disclaimer:
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