

OVERVIEW

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Pakistan collects data on the outflows of Afghans at the Torkham (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman (Balochistan) border crossing points (BCPs) to better understand the movements of Afghans returning to Afghanistan. The data presented below is harmonised with those from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), who also cover Ghulam Khan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa).

On 26 September 2023, the Ministry of Interior in Pakistan announced its decision to enact its "Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan (IFRP)". Between 16 and 31 January 2024, 8,844 Afghan nationals returned to Afghanistan, including 4,678 through the Torkham BCP, 2,956 through the Chaman BCP, 994 through the Ghulam Khan BCP and 216 through the Badini BCP. In addition, border authorities deported 263 individuals due to a lack of valid documentation. Since 1 January 2024, IOM identified 19,458 returns at the four BCPs.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During this reporting period (16 - 31 January 2024), DTM teams have observed a further decrease of 11 per cent in returns as compared to the first two weeks of January 2024.
- The number of returnees have decreased significantly since the first two weeks of November, which recorded the highest returns since 15 September 2023. However, numbers are still higher compared to the period before 15 September 2023.
- Cumulatively, from 15 September 2023, 510,349 individuals have returned to Afghanistan. Four per cent (19,458 individuals) of this total have returned since January 2024.
- In terms of reasons for outflows, during the current reporting period, 71 per cent of the surveyed returnee families indicated they are moving back to Afghanistan due to fear of arrest.
- During the reporting period, three per cent of the overall flow could be considered vulnerable persons.
- The average cost of travel was higher from the border to the point of destination (PKR 26,147 or USD 94) compared to the point of origin to the border (PKR 24,799 or USD 89).

9,107 AFGHAN NATIONALS RETURNED TO AFGHANISTAN BETWEEN 16 JANUARY – 31 JANUARY 2024

DOCUMENTATION TYPE

(N = 8,844)

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----|
| | Undocumented | 94% |
| | PoR holder | 4% |
| | ACC holder | 2% |

AGE AND GENDER*

(N = 7,850)

| Age Group | Female | Male |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| 60+ | 48.9% | 51.1% |
| 18 – 59 | (49) 0.6% | (61) 0.8% |
| 5 – 17 | (1,543) 19.7% | (1,426) 18.2% |
| 0 – 4 | (956) 12.2% | (906) 11.5% |

VULNERABILITY TYPE^{1*}

(N = 7,850)

| | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | 38% Chronically ill people | | 26% Elderly (60+) | | 20% Widowed (female) |
| | 9% Persons with disabilities | | 2% Pregnant women | | 5% Other ² |

REASONS FOR OUTFLOW (TOP 4)*

(Multiple answers, N = 628, can exceed 100%)

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----|
| | Fear of arrest | 71% |
| | No employment | 19% |
| | Seasonal migrant | 16% |
| | Communal pressure to return | 10% |

REASONS FOR DESTINATION (TOP 4)*

(Multiple answers, N = 628, can exceed 100%)

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----|
| | Family reunion | 83% |
| | Availability of assistance | 46% |
| | Returning to own house | 21% |
| | Family member deported | 7% |

AVERAGE COST OF TRAVELLING*

(N = 628)

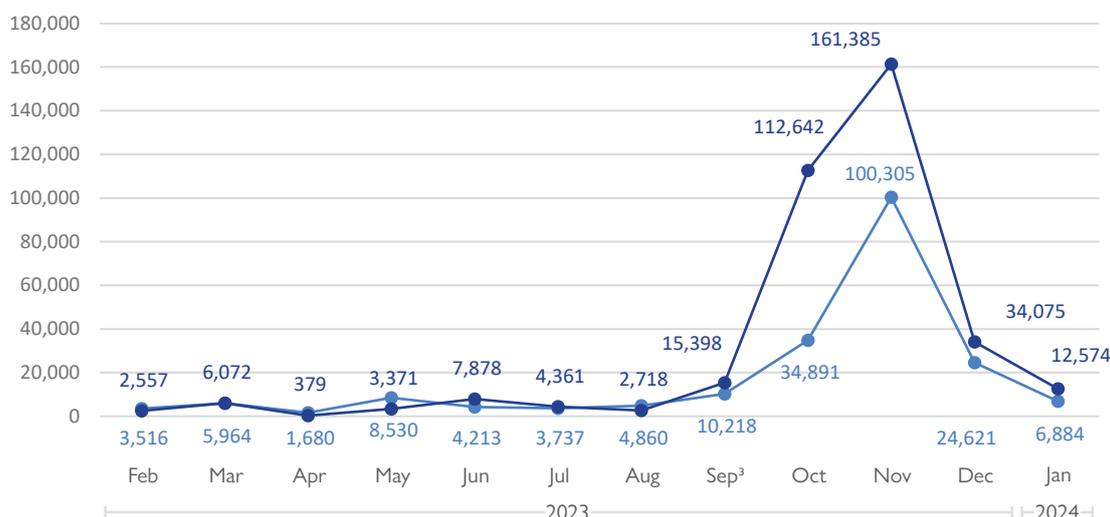
| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Total average travelling cost | PKR 50,945 or USD 183 |
| | Origin to border | PKR 24,799 or USD 89 |
| | Border to destination | PKR 26,147 or USD 94 |

Exchange rates are PKR 278.7 to USD 1 according to the UN Operational Rates of Exchange on 31 January 2024.

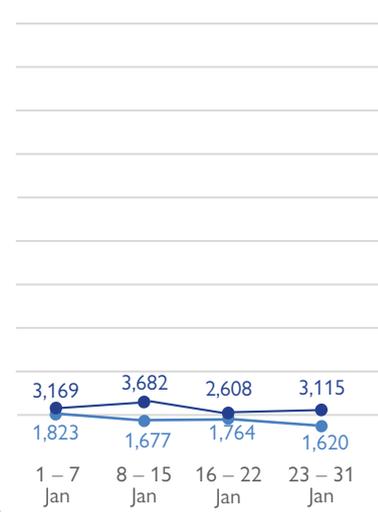
RETURN TREND

● Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Torkham and Ghulam Khan) ● Balochistan (Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman)

MONTHLY TREND



WEEKLY TRENDS (LAST FOUR WEEKS)



* An asterisk means the visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham, Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman, excluding deportees and data collected by UNHCR.

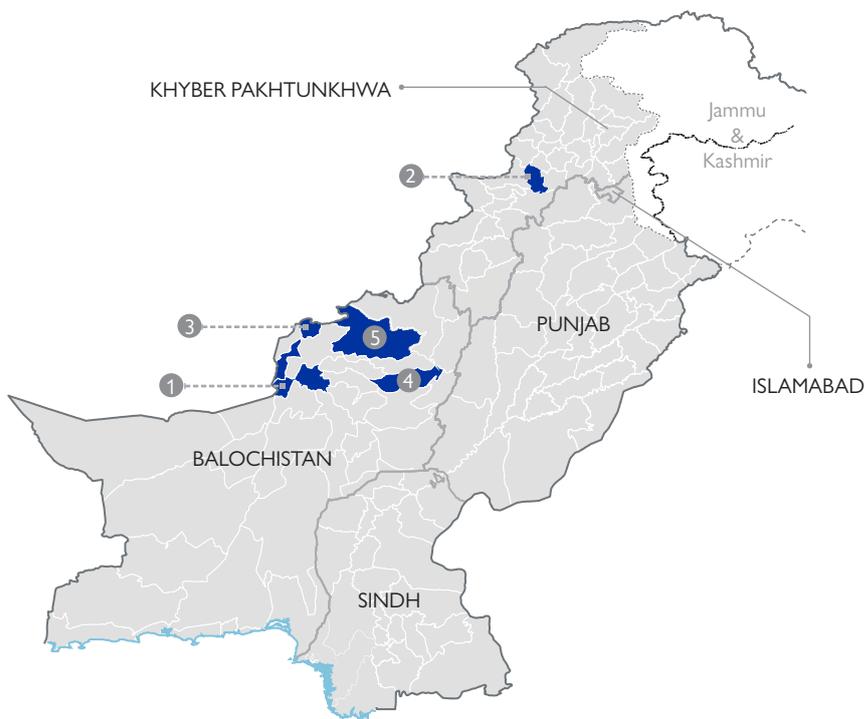
¹ Percentages are expressed as a proportion of the total number of vulnerable persons.

² Other includes mentally ill persons.

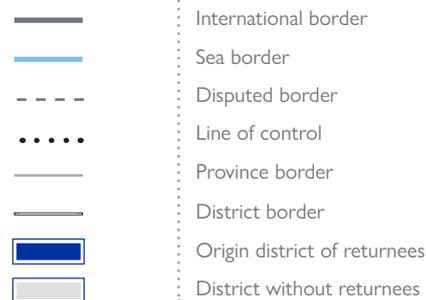
³ As of 15 September 2023, IOM and UNHCR have harmonized their flow monitoring data, therefore, data prior to 15 September 2023 does not include PoR holders.

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

DISTRICTS OF ORIGIN IN PAKISTAN (TOP 5)* (N = 628)



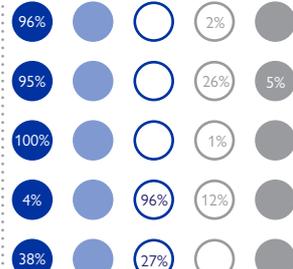
LEGEND



ORIGIN DISTRICT

| ORIGIN DISTRICT | Percentage |
|--------------------|------------|
| 1. Quetta | 18% |
| 2. Peshawar | 17% |
| 3. Killa Abdullah | 12% |
| 4. Duki | 12% |
| 5. Killa Saifullah | 8% |

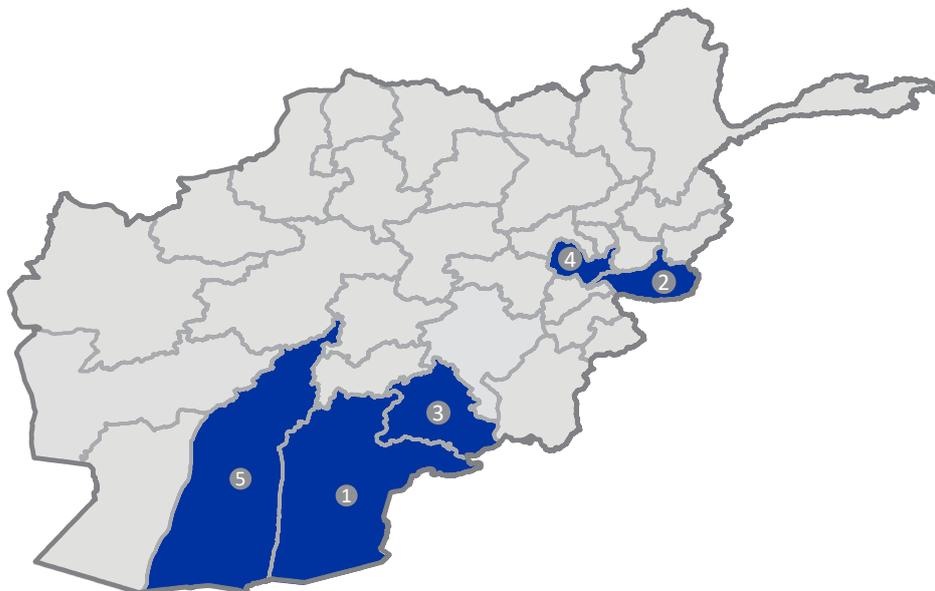
SETTLEMENT TYPE



Note: This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 districts of origin in Pakistan during the reporting period from 16 – 31 January 2024

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.

PROVINCES OF INTENDED DESTINATION (TOP 5)* (N = 628)



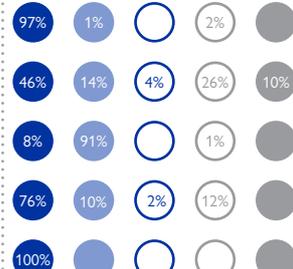
LEGEND



INTENDED PROVINCE

| INTENDED PROVINCE | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1. Kandahar | 33% |
| 2. Nangarhar | 25% |
| 3. Zabol | 21% |
| 4. Kabul | 7% |
| 5. Helmand | 3% |

SETTLEMENT TYPE



Note: This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 provinces of intended destination in Afghanistan during the reporting period from 16 – 31 January 2024

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