

OVERVIEW

IOM Afghanistan's DTM Flow Monitoring activity, initiated at the beginning of 2024, seeks to quantify and better understand the mobility dynamics at Afghanistan's borders. On 10 January 2024, DTM began deploying field teams at four border crossing points with the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRN) and Pakistan (PAK), expanding to another border crossing point Ghulam Khan as of 11 February (see map below for the locations of all five crossing points), to conduct two interlinked exercises. The first is a headcount of all individuals entering or leaving Afghanistan (including returnees), also called Flow Monitoring Counting (FMC), to gauge flow volume. The second is a survey of randomly selected Afghan national individuals or groups entering or leaving Afghanistan, also called the Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS), to understand the profiles, motivations, and vulnerabilities of the target population. This snapshot provides key findings combining various IOM data sources, including DTM Afghanistan's FMC and FMS activities, DTM Pakistan's Flow Monitoring of Afghan returnees, and IOM Afghanistan's Cross-Border Post-Arrival Humanitarian Assistance (CB-PAHA) program, for the period 18 to 24 February 2024. For more information about methodology, see the section in the last page of this report titled "IOM INFLOW DATA."

59,445 TOTAL INFLOWS

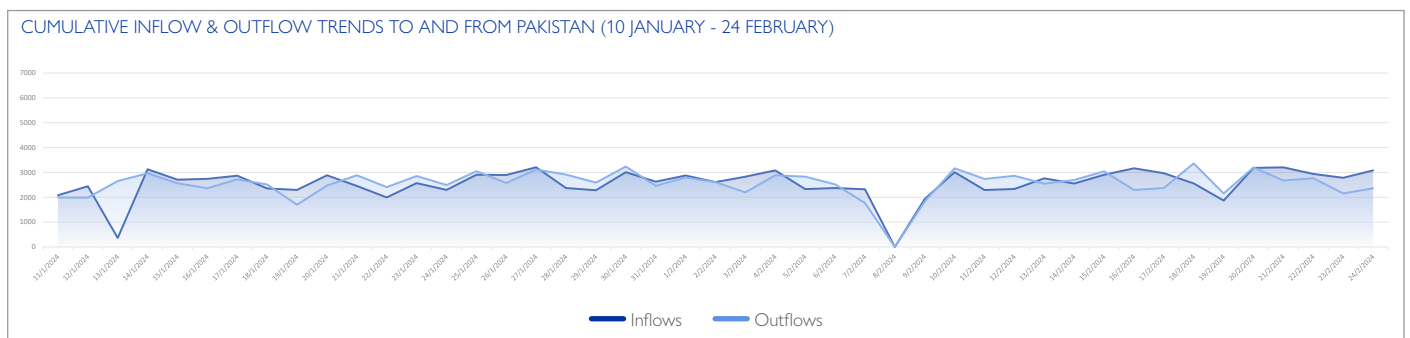
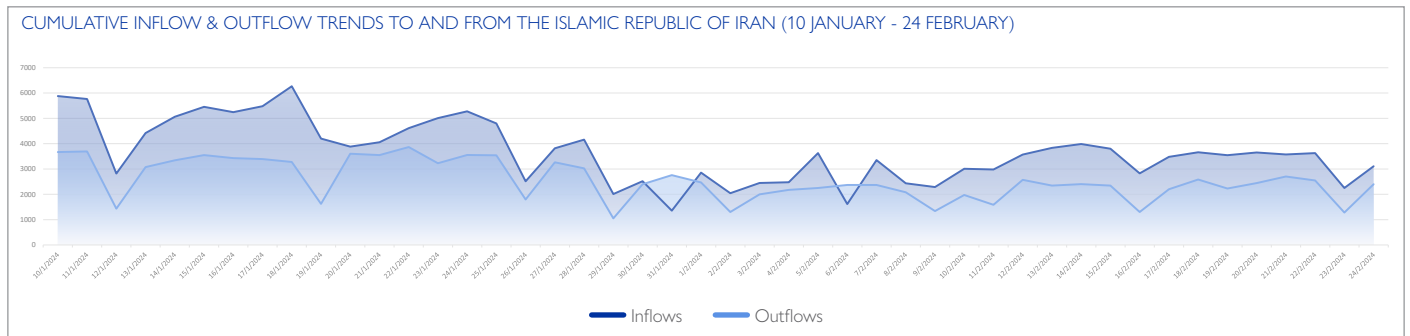
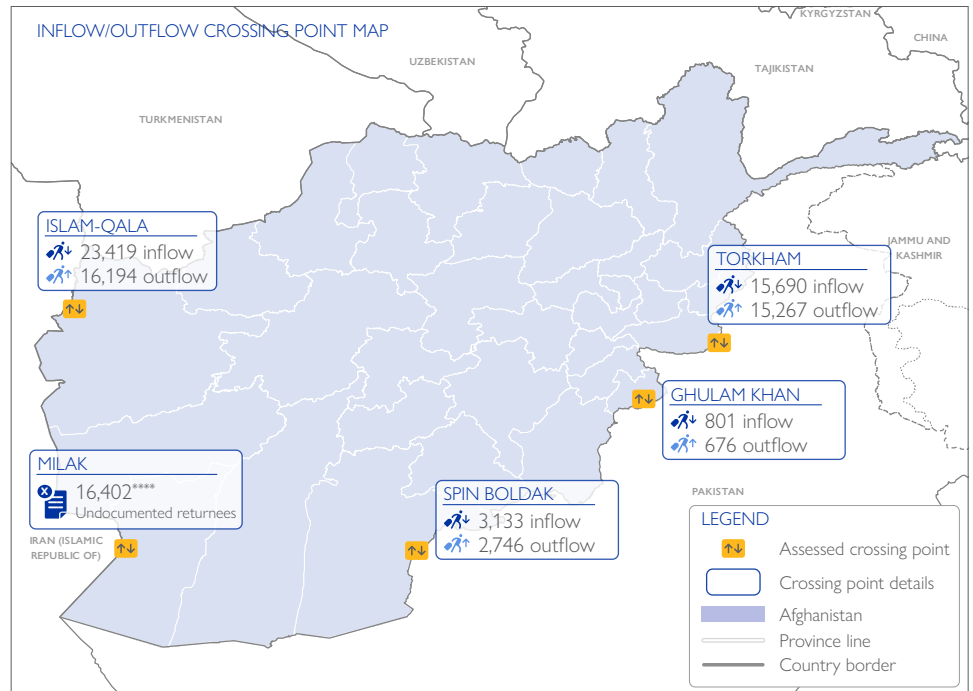
KEY INFLOW FIGURES BY BORDER COUNTRY*

	IRN	PAK
Total inflows	39,821	19,624
Documented returnees	NOT AVAILABLE	628**
Undocumented returnees	26,452***	1,297***
Assisted by IOM	4,872***	1,247***

34,883 TOTAL OUTFLOWS

OUTFLOW FIGURES BY BORDER COUNTRY*****

	IRN	PAK
Total outflows	16,194	18,689



DISCLAIMER: These maps are for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

* More information on the methodology of collecting data on different subsets of inflow groups can be found on the last page of this report in the section titled "IOM INFLOW DATA."

** Documented returnees include Proof of Registration (PoR) holders. Source: IOM DTM Pakistan and UNHCR Pakistan

*** This data is collected by IOM CB-PAHA. Individuals receive post-arrival assistance from IOM and support from Border Consortium partners. The Border Consortium is led by IOM. For more information and access to the Consortium dashboard, visit <https://afghanistan.iom.int/situation-reports>.

**** No data collection due to operational suspensions, the undocumented returnees data collected by IOM CB-PAHA.

***** DTM Afghanistan does not collect data on subsets of outflow groups.



INFLOWS

FMC TOTAL INDIVIDUALS: 59,445

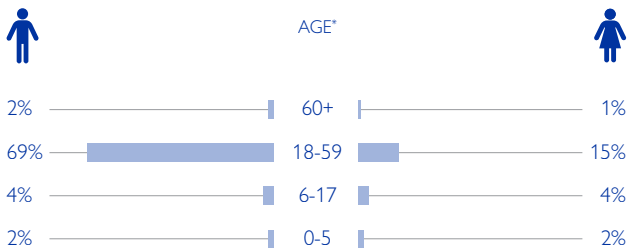
FMS TOTAL RESPONDENTS: 3,902

The following analysis compiles responses from 3,902 total Afghan nationals (1,971 at the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran, 1,931 at the border with Pakistan) interviewed by DTM Afghanistan during its FMS activity among individuals and groups entering Afghanistan.

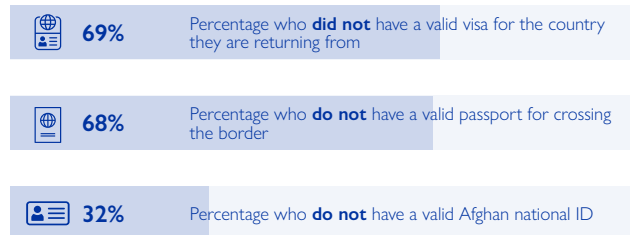
Entering Afghanistan with the intention to transit to a third country was very uncommon; the intended destination of almost all respondents arriving from the Islamic Republic of Iran or Pakistan was Afghanistan. While movements from Iran were mainly characterized by deportees and those traveling for economic reasons, movements from Pakistan involved voluntary returns and family-related visits. Male respondents arriving from the Islamic Republic of Iran were more likely than female respondents to cite economic reasons for their reason for travel (71% versus 61%, respectively). Meanwhile, female respondents arriving from both the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan were much more likely to respond that they felt unsafe at their origin location (34% and 20%, respectively) compared to male respondents (15% and 7%, respectively).

PROFILES

Demographics



Documentation



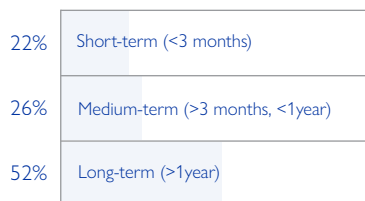
Presence of vulnerable groups



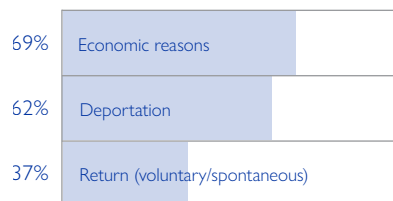
REASONS AND INTENTIONS

RESPONDENTS ARRIVING FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

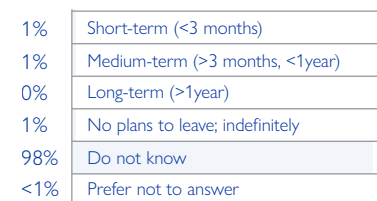
Length of stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran



Main reasons for travel from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Afghanistan (top 3)**

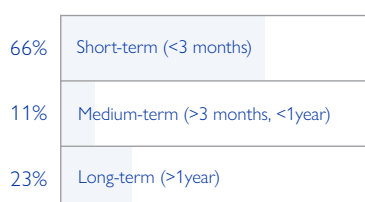


Planned length of stay in Afghanistan

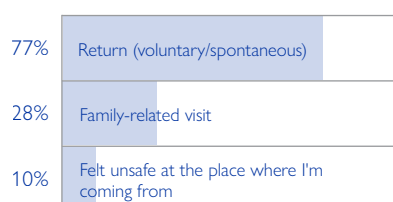


RESPONDENTS ARRIVING FROM PAKISTAN

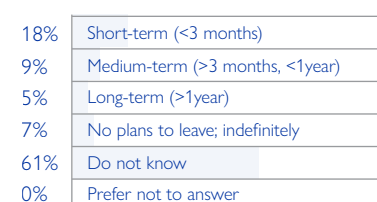
Length of stay in Pakistan



Main reasons for travel from Pakistan to Afghanistan (top 3)**



Planned length of stay in Afghanistan



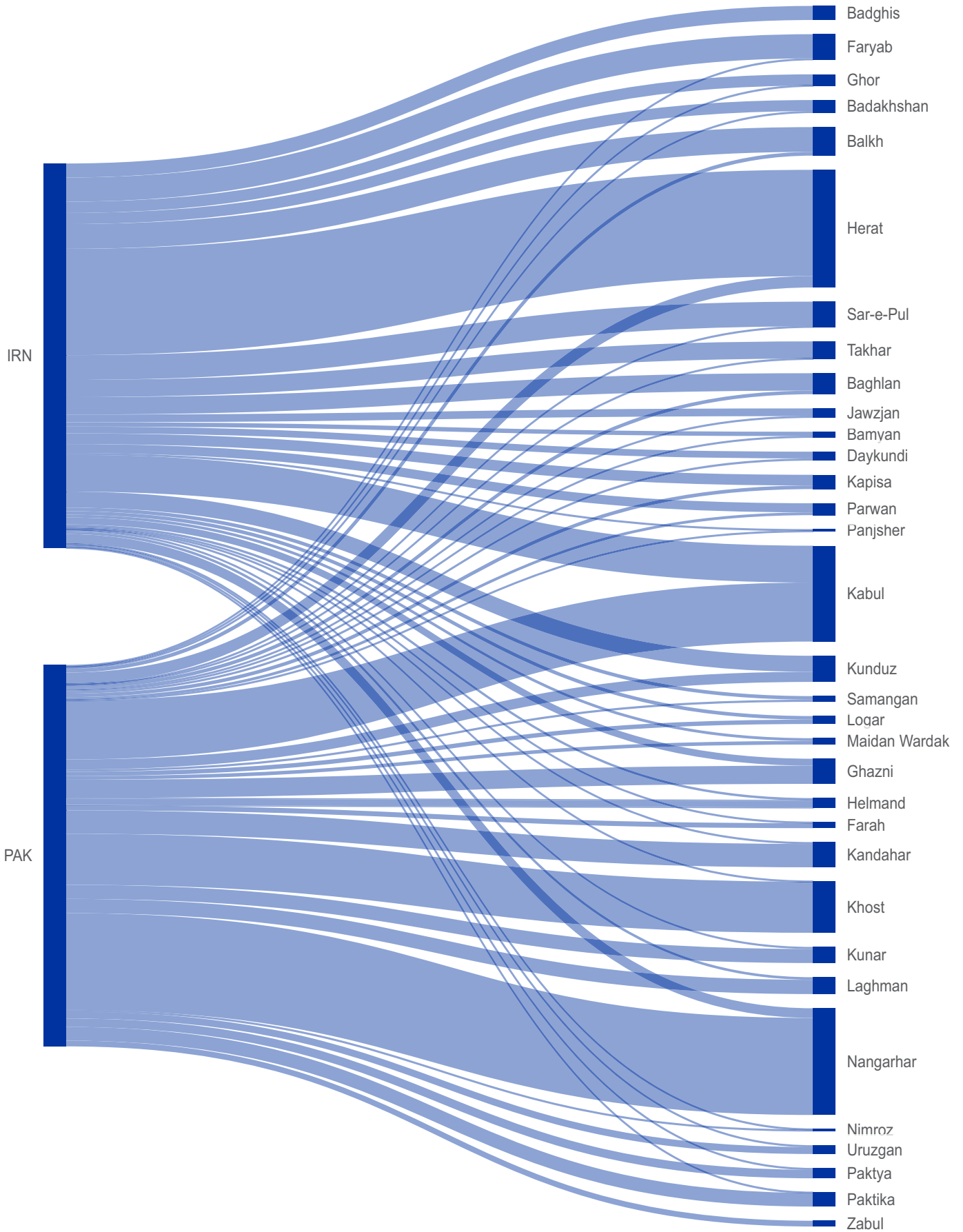
* Individuals under 18 were assessed by having an accompanying adult answer on their behalf.
** Multiple answers were possible. As a result, percentages may exceed 100%.



INFLOWS

ORIGIN COUNTRIES

DESTINATION PROVINCES





OUTFLOWS

FMC TOTAL INDIVIDUALS: 34,883

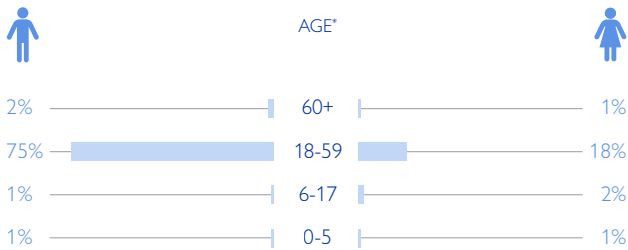
FMS TOTAL RESPONDENTS: 1,816

The following analysis compiles responses from 1,816 total Afghan nationals (461 at the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran, 1,355 at the border with Pakistan) interviewed by DTM Afghanistan during its FMS activity among individuals and groups leaving Afghanistan.

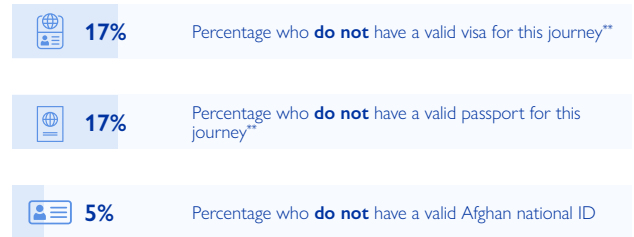
Possessing travel documents, including a passport and visa, was relatively common among those leaving Afghanistan. This stands in contrast with the majority of those arriving to Afghanistan, who were not carrying travel documents. The majority of those going abroad reported that this was their first time leaving Afghanistan. Most respondents going to the Islamic Republic of Iran intended to stay there for a year or less, while most going to Pakistan planned shorter trips; the majority intended to stay less than three months. These intentions reflect respondents' reasons for migration. While family-related visits were a common reason to leave Afghanistan for both those going to Pakistan and those going to the Islamic Republic of Iran, accessing healthcare, which can often constitute a shorter visit, was more common among the former; whereas economic motivations, likely related to employment, were more common among the latter.

PROFILES

Demographics



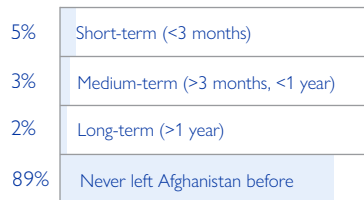
Documentation



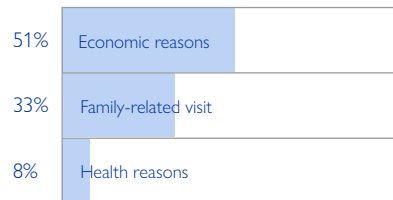
REASONS AND INTENTIONS

RESPONDENTS GOING TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

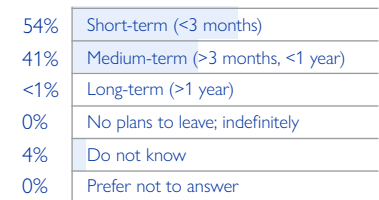
Length of stay in Afghanistan



Main reasons for travel from Afghanistan to the Islamic Republic of Iran (top 3)***

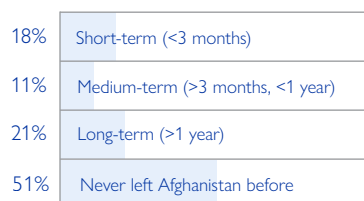


Planned length of stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran

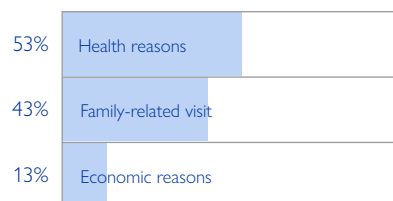


RESPONDENTS GOING TO PAKISTAN

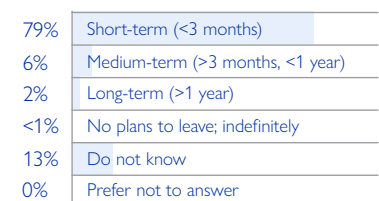
Length of stay in Afghanistan



Main reasons for travel from Afghanistan to Pakistan (top 3)***



Planned length of stay in Pakistan



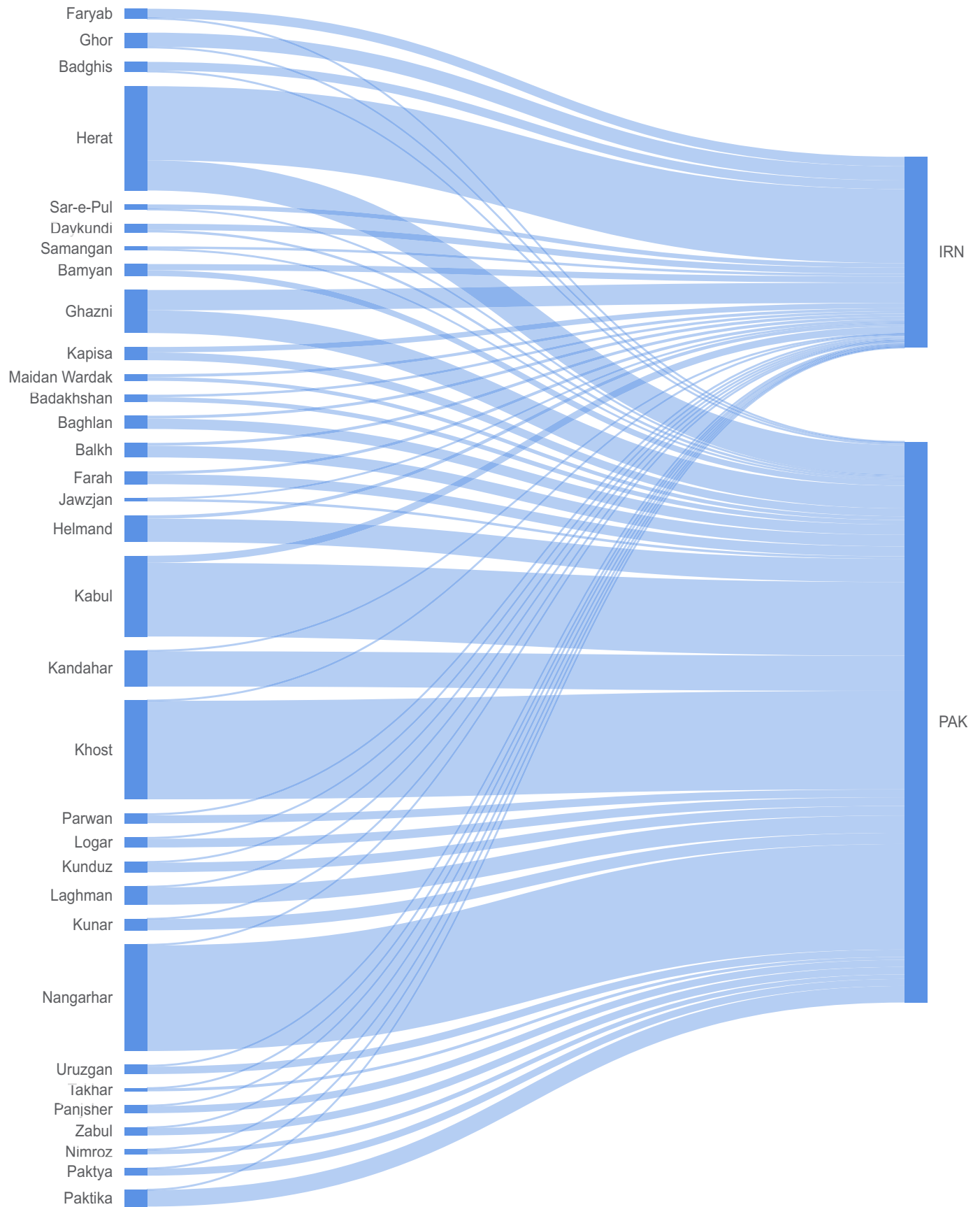
* Individuals under 18 were assessed by having an accompanying adult answer on their behalf.
** These percentages are based on the responses of interviewees only and have no means of verification.
*** Multiple answers were possible. As a result, percentages may exceed 100%.



OUTFLOWS

ORIGIN PROVINCES

DESTINATION COUNTRIES





IOM INFLOW DATA

DTM Afghanistan, DTM Pakistan, and IOM Afghanistan's Cross Border Post-Arrival Humanitarian Assistance (CB-PAHA) program use different methodologies to collect data on various demographic subsets of individuals entering Afghanistan (inflows). The following flow chart illustrates the relationships between the subsets and how IOM coordinates its various activities and methodologies to develop more robust and comprehensive databases on movements into Afghanistan.

1 TOTAL INFLOWS

COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

DTM Afghanistan counts every individual, regardless of nationality, documentation status, or planned length of stay in Afghanistan, who enters Afghanistan from the Ghulam Khan, Islam Qala, Milak, Spin Boldak, and Torkham border points. This exercise is referred to as Flow Monitoring Counting (FMC). DTM Afghanistan also surveys a random sample of those counted using its Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) exercise.

2 TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES

COLLECTED AT BORDER WITH PAK

DTM Pakistan collects the number of Afghan nationals returning to Afghanistan via the Spin Boldak and Torkham border crossing points. Returnees are classified as Afghans who intend to return and live in Afghanistan for an extended period of time, as opposed to those just travelling for trade or to visit Afghanistan temporarily. There is no similar exercise at the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3 TOTAL NUMBER OF DOCUMENTED RETURNEES

COLLECTED AT BORDER WITH PAK

4 TOTAL NUMBER OF UNDOCUMENTED RETURNEES

COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

The number of documented returnees comes from DTM Pakistan data collection. The number of undocumented returnees comes from IOM CB-PAHA data collection.

5 TOTAL NUMBER ASSISTED BY IOM

COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

IOM CB-PAHA assists undocumented Afghan returnees in reception centers located close to the Islam Qala, Milak, Spin Boldak, and Torkham border points.

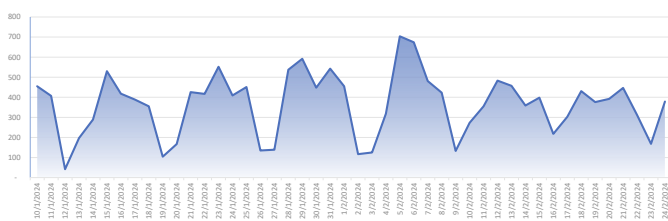
DATA ON ASSISTED AFGHAN RETURNEES

IOM Afghanistan's CB-PAHA program collects information on undocumented Afghan returnees who pass through reception centers near the border and receive assistance from IOM and Border Consortium partners. The Border Consortium is led by IOM. For more information and access to the Consortium dashboard, visit <https://afghanistan.iom.int/situation-reports>.

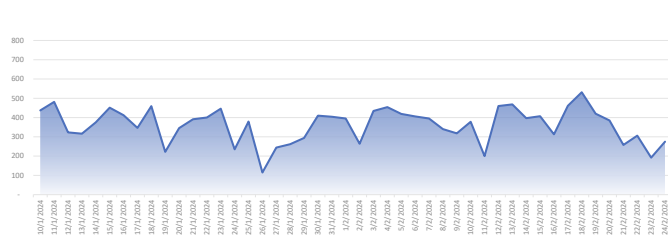
CUMULATIVE TRENDS: NUMBER OF RETURNEES ASSISTED BY IOM (10 JANUARY - 24 FEBRUARY)

FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

ISLAM QALA

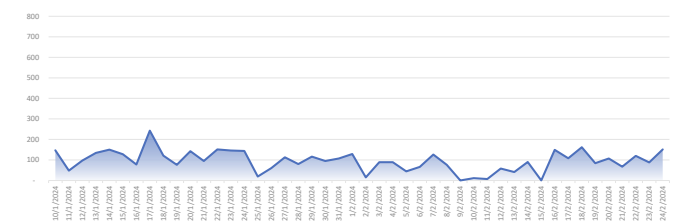


MILAK



FROM PAKISTAN

SPIN BOLDAK



TORKHAM

