

DROUGHT RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT

HERAT
9.SEP–12.OCT.2018



Drought-displaced families arrive by truckloads at all hours at DTM's Armalek FMP. © IOM 2018









In response to critical levels of internal displacement, caused by what is being described as the worst drought in Afghanistan in decades, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) monitors inflows of drought-affected IDPs arriving in Herat City, identifying and registering only the newly arriving IDP caseload, and reports/shares the information with humanitarian partners to facilitate onward registration of newly arriving IDPs into humanitarian assistance programmes. DTM also tracks the outflow of IDPs returning to their places of origin or into secondary displacement.

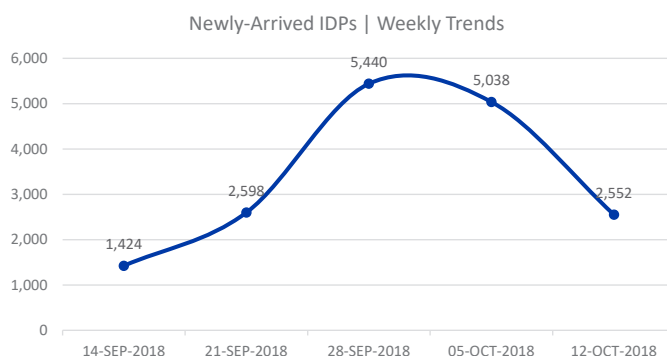
Over the reporting period, 3 flow monitoring points (FMPs) have been discontinued (Shedaye, Band Pashtun and Karokh), due to overwhelming numbers of opportunistic, long-term IDPs and host communities arriving at FMPs, attempting to take advantage of presumed distributions. Currently, 3 strategically placed FMPs remain, where DTM teams monitor incoming and outgoing flows of IDPs, identify and register drought-affected IDP families, and provide newly arriving families with IDP Cards to facilitate their registration for humanitarian assistance.



Truckloads of impoverished, drought-displaced families arrive with their meagre possessions in need of assistance to rebuild their lives.

HIGHLIGHTS

-  **3** Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) at checkpoints on major routes connecting to Herat City at Armalek, Kamar Kulagh, and Chaharsoy Guzara
-  **17,099** IDPs enumerated across all FMPs (inflow + outflow)
-  **15,636** arriving IDPs displaced by drought (91% of all IDPs)
-  **1,313** arriving IDPs displaced by conflict (8% of all IDPs)
-  **14,696** arriving IDPs' intended destination is Injil district (86%), mainly in informal settlements in Shedaye
-  **10,964** arriving IDPs are from Badghis province (64%)
-  **13,052** arriving IDPs intend to live in tents or in the open air (77%)
-  **11,228** arriving IDPs do not intend to return home (66%)

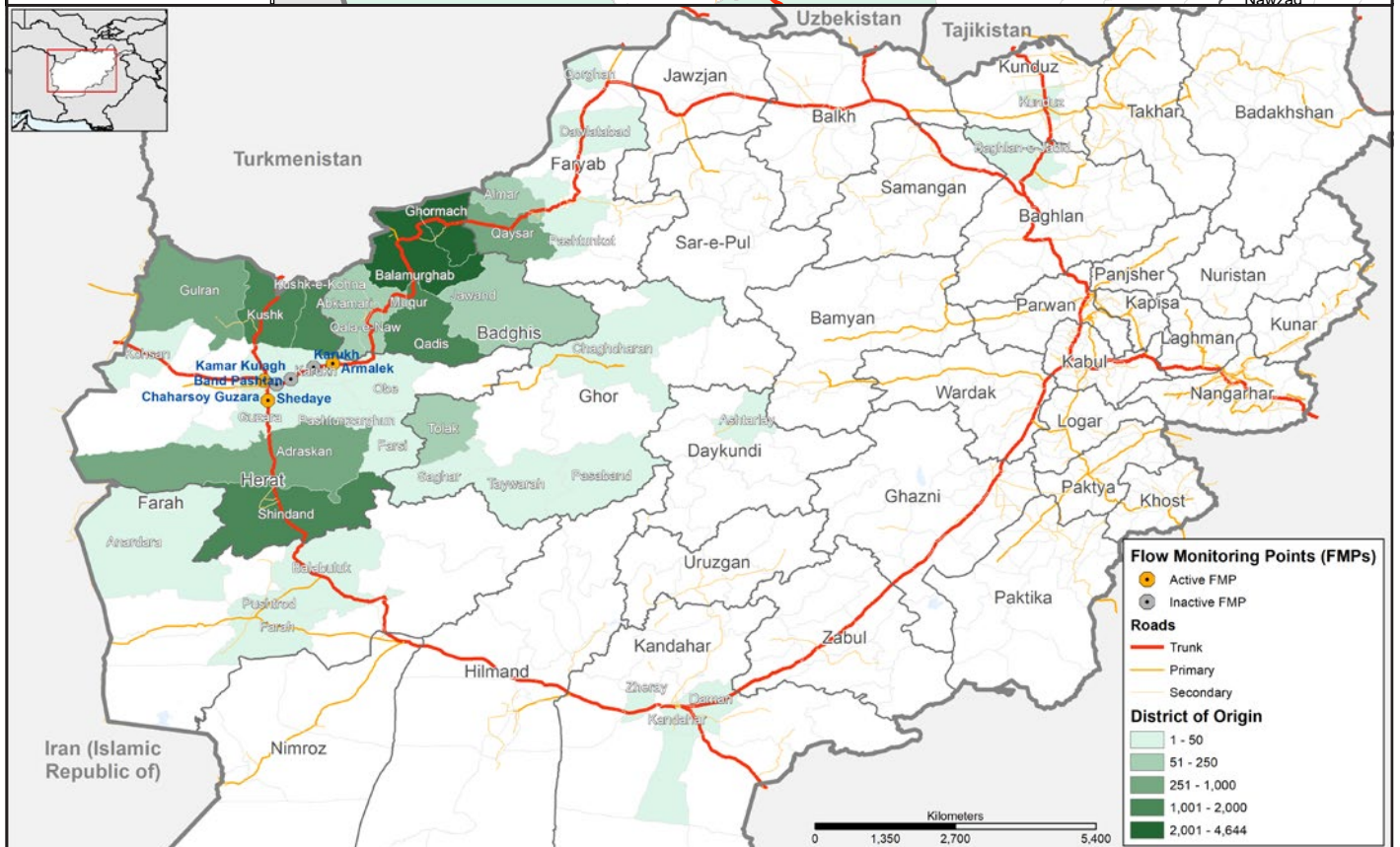
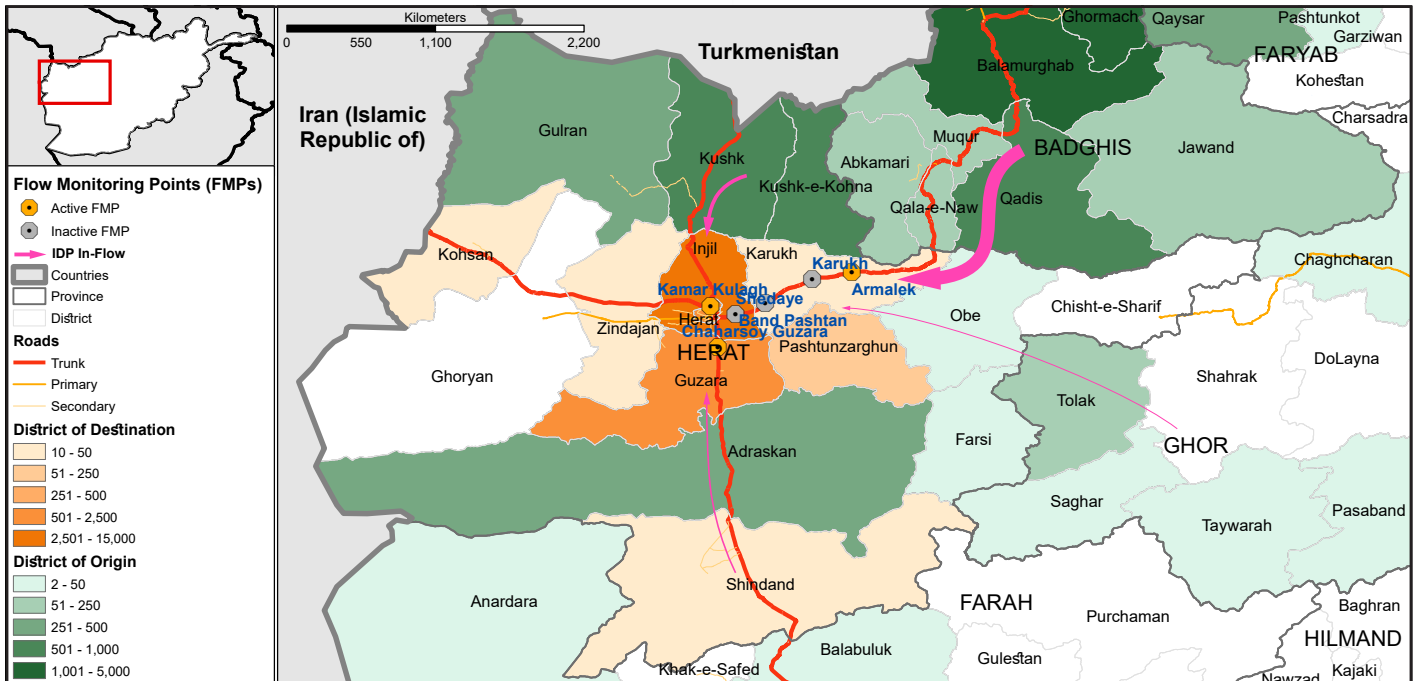
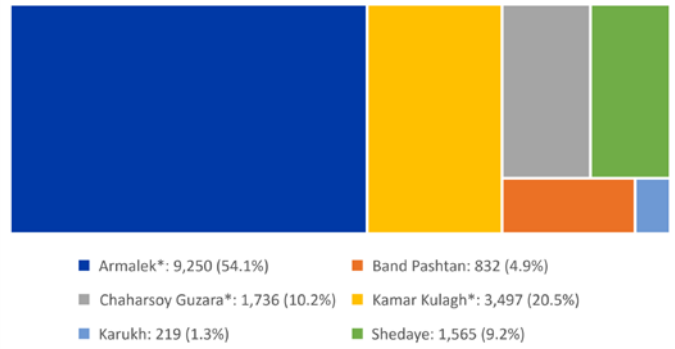
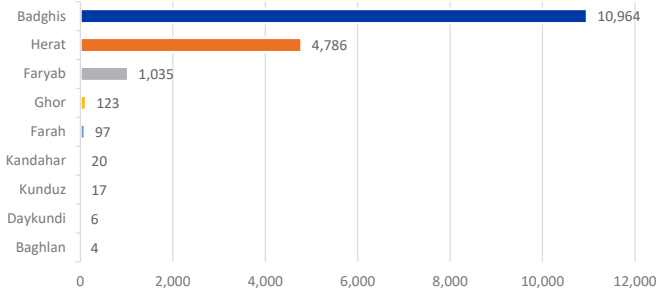


After plateauing in the weeks of 28 September and 5 October, there has been a marked 50% decrease in the influx of newly arrived IDPs between the weeks of 5 and 12 October.

ORIGIN & DESTINATION

IDPs (In-Flow + Out-Flow) | Registrations per FMP

Newly-Arrived IDPs | Province of Origin



IDPs

IDPs are Afghans who have fled from other settlements in Afghanistan with the aim to arrive and reside at a different 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. At the FMPs surrounding Herat City, IOM's DTM teams register IDPs newly arriving to Herat (inflow) and IDPs leaving Herat (outflow), presumably to return home or as a result of secondary displacement.



17,099
total IDPs
enumerated



15,636
displaced by drought
or other natural
disasters (91%)



1,059
displaced by conflict in
Shindand district, Herat
(81% of conflict IDPs)



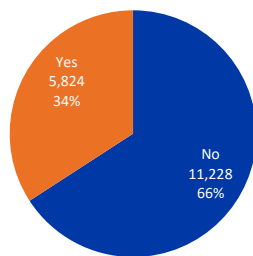
47
secondarily displaced
or returned home
(0.27%)

IDPs (In-Flow + Out-Flow) | Reason for Displacement

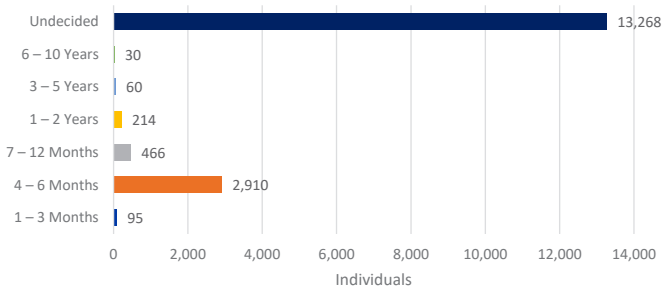


- Drought: 15,636 (91.4%)
- Conflict: 1,313 (7.7%)
- Return: 37 (0.2%)
- Flood: 9 (0.1%)
- Secondary Displacement: 10 (0.1%)
- Other Natural Disaster: 94 (0.5%)

Newly-Arrived IDPs | Return Intention



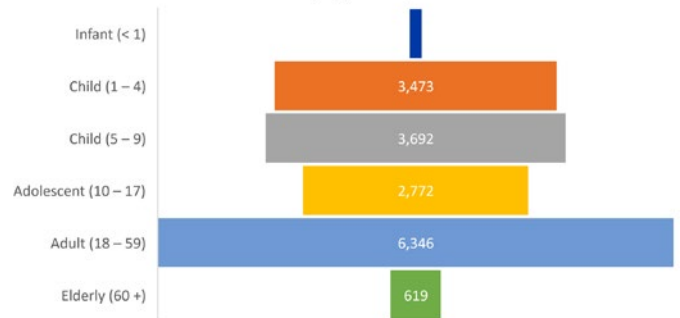
Newly-Arrived IDPs | Intended Length of Stay



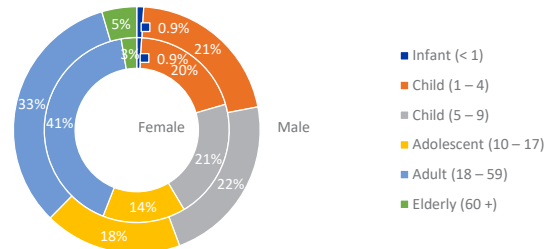
SEX & AGE COMPOSITION

Children and adolescents under the age of 18 represent 59% (10,087) of the newly arrived IDPs, among which 3,623 (21%) are under 5 years old. The male to female ratio among arriving IDPs is practically even, with only 62 more females than males.

IDPs | Age Groups



Newly-Arrived IDPs | Age & Sex



Age Group	Female	Male	Total	% of Total
Infant (< 1)	73	77	150	1%
Child (1-4)	1,682	1,791	3,473	20%
Child (5-9)	1,792	1,900	3,692	22%
Adolescent (10-17)	1,240	1,532	2,772	16%
Adult (18-59)	3,539	2,807	6,346	37%
Elderly (60+)	231	388	619	4%
Grand Total	8,557	8,495	17,052	100%



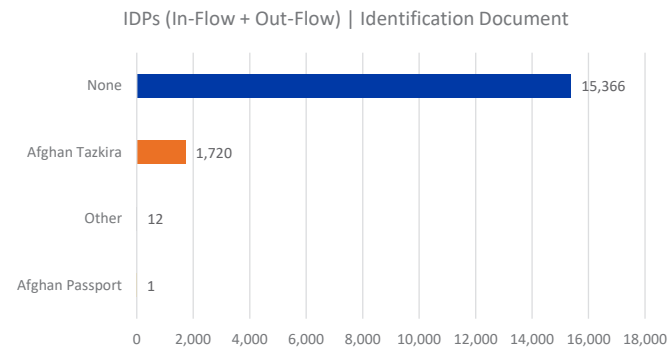
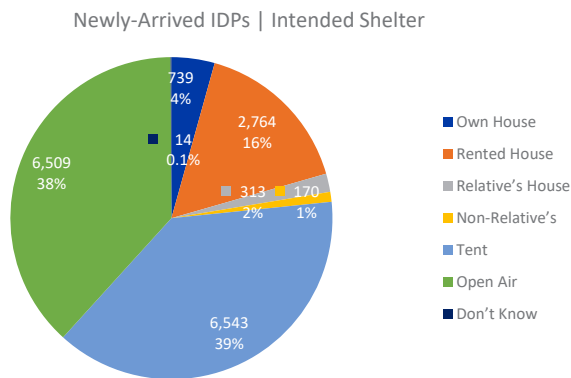
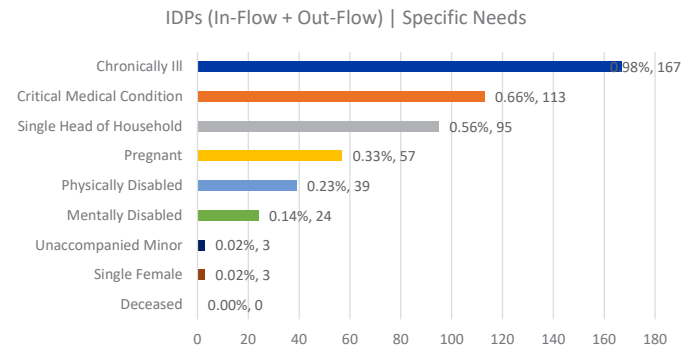
Female enumerators at the Kamar Kulagh FMP remain vigilant for potential protection cases among the IDP families, including the elderly, women and children, predominantly from drought-affected districts in northern Herat province.

SPECIFIC NEEDS

Shelter is the prevailing, immediate need of IDPs. An alarmingly high number of IDPs (13,052 / 77%) intend to live in tents or in the open air, making them highly vulnerable to Afghanistan’s extreme weather conditions and related health threats.

The total proportion of newly-arrived IDPs with specific needs almost doubled, from 1.6% to 2.9%, between 28 September and 12 October, with 501 total cases with specific needs reported. Among these cases, 167 were chronically ill, 113 suffered from a critical medical condition, and 95 were single heads of households.

With regard to official identification documents, the vast majority of registered IDPs claimed to not have a taskeera (90%). Only 1,720 IDPs, 98% of whom were heads of households, had a taskeera. Without unique IDs, it is extremely challenging for humanitarian partners to detect families and individuals registering for assistance multiple times without the use of biometrics.



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FMP IN ACTION



IDP families patiently waiting for registration at Armalek FMP in Herat.

At the Armalek FMP, 2 large trucks that had been en-route from Qala-e-Naw in Badghis province to Herat - roughly an hour’s drive in the direction to the right of the photograph - turned onto the side road pictured above and unloaded for registration. Against an arid, windy, dusty backdrop of mountains and barren landscape, over 100 men, women and children, who were specifically separated into their family groups so that they couldn’t purposefully split into smaller units and duplicate their claims, sat patiently waiting their turn to register as new arrivals.

9,250 IDPs (54.5% of all registered IDPs) have so far been registered at the Armalek FMP, which is located just off the only paved roadway connecting Badghis and Herat.

Given that the majority of IDPs have no intention of returning home, the water containers and other personal possessions (sometimes including livestock) strewn within and outside the trucks are the meagre items with which the IDPs will aim to rebuild their lives. DTM enumerators, stationed in the red vehicle due to the high winds, conduct registrations with families, one by one, and once completed supply them with IDP cards to identify them as newly-arrived, drought-induced IDPs to facilitate their onward registration for humanitarian support.

Unfortunately, not all IDPs can be registered – IDP cards are only distributed to newly-arriving IDPs, in light of current priorities. To the left in the photograph, a small group of long-term IDPs from Herat can be seen arguing with a DTM staff member (in the blue jacket), pleading to be registered, opportunistically hoping to benefit from presumed humanitarian distributions. DTM staff member, Zainullah Sultani, says of the incident, “I was explaining to them that we are delivering a targeted project and we are unable to give IDP cards to pre-existing IDPs. These IDPs were actually from Herat, pretending to be from Badghis.”

Typical of flow monitoring installations, worldwide, economic opportunities present themselves and entrepreneurial individuals quickly spring to life. Accordingly, on the other side of the road to the left of the blue truck, a group of young adolescents set up a make-shift shop in a wheelbarrow, selling snacks, simple foods, drinks and water. Army officials, discretely standing towards the back of the photo, provide safety and security for both the DTM team and IDPs, to ensure that situations don’t escalate out of control, as had previously occurred at the Shedayee FMP in Herat City, which was subsequently shut down.